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# *Aruba* TODAY

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## Uniquely American

The Mistletoes the Snowman balloon make its way down J.F.K. Boulevard during the 95th annual Thanksgiving day parade, Thursday Nov. 27, 2014, in Philadelphia.  
(AP Photo/ Joseph Kaczmarek)

## Thanksgiving Celebrated With Turkey, Parades, Shopping

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** - Millions of Americans across the country are marking the holiday with lots of turkey, football, parades and early shopping, while many are overcoming some nasty weather and power outages. At the White House, President Barack Obama is spending a quiet Thanks-

giving with a traditional meal.

Here's a look at how Americans are celebrating: Heavy security including bomb-sniffing dogs and police helicopters protected spectators of all ages who lined the route of the nationally televised Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, which counted Thomas the Tank Engine, Paddington

bear and the Red Mighty Morphin Power Ranger among its six new giant balloons.

Before the parade was over, snow flurries had replaced drizzle as thousands of people discovered they could get no closer than a long block away from the colorful spectacle.

"I can't go to the front. I can only see from here," said

Ivan Souza, of Florianopolis, Brazil, as he watched with his wife and two children.

Daryl Winchester, 17, of Queens, was luckier, snagging a front-row spot across the street from grandstands where the parade began. "This is great. It's nice to feel so festive for the holidays," she said as she took pictures, waved and shouted encouragement to parade

participants.

Shannon Hampton, a Lakeland, Florida, resident celebrating her 18th birthday with a friend, said the parade was exciting.

"My favorite part has to be the balloons because they are so much bigger in person than you think they would be," she said.

**Continued on page 3**



# OPEC keeps oil output on hold despite low prices

**GEORGE JAHN**  
**Associated Press**

**VIENNA (AP)** — Reflecting its lessening oil clout, OPEC decided Thursday to keep its output target on hold and sit out falling crude

ed, it showed the once-powerful cartel is losing the power to push up markets to its own advantage. OPEC has traditionally relied on output cuts to regulate supply and prices.

ket without a lasting boost in prices and with others outside the cartel making up the difference. Instead, the move to maintain a production target of 30 million barrels a day ap-

The Saudis and their Gulf allies hope to put economic pressure on rival producers in the U.S., which need higher prices to break even. In the long term, that could help reaffirm OPEC's

The global price plunged \$5 to a four-year low of \$72.76 a barrel. As recently as June it was around \$115. Oil ministers had come to Thursday's meeting facing two unpalatable choices: Cut their production from 30 million barrels a day in an effort to boost prices and see OPEC's market share fall, or do nothing in hopes of riding out the crisis.

Paring output may not have been very effective because supply from non-OPEC countries, like the U.S., remains high. Also, discipline within the 12-member organization is lax and overproduction by some members would have cut into the effectiveness of any production cut. In any case, OPEC could have not afforded to scale back production by more than 1 million barrels a day — too little to make a sizeable dent in supply.

OPEC Secretary General Abdullah Al-Badry suggested all members were on board with the decision to stick to the present output level, telling reporters "the ministers are happy."

"I see no nagging from consumers, no nagging from producers," he told reporters.

In fact, the decision once again appeared to reflect Saudi Arabia's clout over less powerful OPEC rivals. By opposing an output cut, Saudi Arabia appears to be hoping to drive prices below the level at which shale oil production is economical. Experts say shale oil production turns too costly at the \$60 a barrel level.

"When it comes to the raw decision-making, that is left to the unofficial leader, Saudi Arabia," said Alfa Energy chairman John Hall. Accounting for about a third of OPEC output, the Saudis can weather lower prices because their coffers are well-padded and its production costs are relatively low.

But poorer OPEC members like Venezuela and Nigeria need levels close to \$100 or above to fund national budgets. □



**Secretary General of OPEC Abdalla Salem El-Badri of Libya speaks during a news conference after a meeting of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, at their headquarters in Vienna, Austria, Thursday Nov. 27, 2014. OPEC oil ministers have decided to keep their present output target at 30 million barrels a day, despite an oversupply of crude and plunging prices. (AP Photo/Ronald Zak)**

prices that will likely spiral even lower as a result. Oil prices fell sharply on the news. Even though the decision was largely expect-

But it appeared to realize Thursday that with cheap crude in oversupply, a reduction would only cut into OPEC's share of the mar-

peared to reflect acceptance of the Saudi view within OPEC that short-term pain had to be accepted for later gain.

dominance of the oil market. It would also be good news for consumers and oil-importing nations.

## Diplomats make trade deal to cut red tape, poverty

**JOHN HEILPRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**GENEVA (AP)** — After many years of talking, the World Trade Organization pulled off a major deal Thursday that the body said could boost global commerce by \$1 trillion annually.

Diplomats said the deal is the first multilateral trade agreement in the organization's 20-year history. Agreement has been difficult to reach because WTO deals require the unanimous backing of its 160 member countries. "Once in force, it will help developing countries better integrate into the global economy, intensify regional integration and lift millions out of poverty," said European Union Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom. WTO Director-General Roberto Azevedo said the deal is now operational but will come into force once two-thirds of the members have officially accepted it.

"This is a very important moment for the WTO," said Azevedo. "We have put ourselves back in the game. We have put our negotiating work back on track."

After months of stalemate and years of negotiation, a U.S.-India deal this month over food stockpiling by India cleared the way for the agreement. India had insisted on subsidizing grains under a national policy to support hundreds of millions of impoverished farmers and provide food security amid high inflation, a stand that had blocked the talks since July.

Critics worry that the agreement could make it harder for countries to set their own priorities on environmental and labor protections, food security and other trade-related issues. The WTO has said, however, that the Trade Facilitation Agreement could increase total world trade to \$23 trillion from its current estimate of \$22 trillion.

U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman said the WTO "has taken a critical step forward." The deal "has the potential to fundamentally reform global customs practices and substantially reduce the costs and time associated with goods crossing borders," he said.

The deal covers only a small part of the areas on which the WTO launched a trade round in Doha, Qatar, in 2001, with the initial plan of completing it in three years. It soon proved impossible to meet that timeframe or to agree on all the topics in the original program.

As the years dragged by and the organization's members continued to disagree on fundamentals, many observers considered that the WTO was losing its relevance and that countries would be better off concentrating on bilateral trade deals. Malmstrom said this deal puts the WTO "back in business."

"Members have shown the willingness to compromise — and a real commitment to the multilateral trading system," said Azevedo. "It has been a tough period for our negotiating work, but we have got the right result today." □



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## Thanksgiving Celebrated With Turkey, Parades, Shopping

Continued from Front

President Barack Obama is spent a quiet Thanksgiving at the White House, where the belly-stuffing menu featured all the holiday's basics. He also continued a tradition of telephoning members of the armed forces to thank them for their service.

The first family feasted on thyme-roasted turkey and honey-baked ham, corn-bread stuffing and oyster stuffing, braised winter greens and macaroni and cheese. Don't forget the green bean casserole, sweet potato gratin, mashed potatoes, dinner rolls and pies.

Obama says Thanksgiving is his favorite holiday "because, more than any other, it is uniquely American." Power outages from a major snowstorm forced some in the Northeast to celebrate Thanksgiving much like the pilgrims and Native Americans did almost 400 years ago - in the dark. The outages were particularly bad in northern New England, where about 200,000 customers remained without power in New Hampshire on Thursday afternoon and about 80,000 were without electricity in Maine.

More than 35,000 New York utility customers were without power Thursday afternoon and about 15,000 customers lacked power in New Jersey. In Putney, Vermont, Mike Mrowicki was in the middle of baking squash and making apple-cranberry crisp when his



Dylan Morales pouts while shopping with his father Rigoberto, at Kmart on 34th Street, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014, in New York. Millions of customers are expected to shop on Thanksgiving Day as many retailers remain open on a day traditionally reserved for spending time with family.

(AP Photo/John Minchillo)

lights flickered off. Mrowicki said Thursday his family will improvise on its meal for 10 people. "We've got a gas stove, and we've got a woodstove we heat with," Mrowicki said. "We've got plenty of lanterns and candles." To the delight of some and consternation of others, it's increasingly become commonplace to see stores open on Thanksgiving, as retailers try to entice shoppers inside and kick off the holiday shopping season a day earlier than the traditional Black Friday. Some of the stores open for at least part of the day on the holiday include Kmart, Target, Sears, Macy's and Wal-Mart. Other stores, like Neiman-Marcus, Nordstrom and Costco, are closed. □

## Millions in America go shopping on Thanksgiving

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Millions of Americans headed to the stores for gift shopping on the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday in what's quickly becoming a new tradition on a day once dedicated solely to family and feasting.

Just a few years ago when a few stores started opened late on the holiday, the move was met with resistance from workers and shoppers who believed the day should be sacred. Thanksgiving — in bygone times a holiday meant to give thanks for the harvest — is celebrated with late-afternoon roast turkey meals.

But last year, more than dozen major retailers opened at some point on Thanksgiving evening. And this year, at least half of them — including Target, Macy's, Staples and J.C. Penney — are opening earlier in the evening on the holiday.

Mary Smalls, 40, was at Toys R Us in New York City's Times Square trying to get all her shopping done on Thanksgiving. She said she wanted to avoid heading out on the day after the holiday known as Black Friday.

"I'm going to try to avoid the crowds," said Smalls, who planned to spend \$300 or \$400 on gifts this year.

The Thanksgiving openings are one way retailers are trying to compete for Americans' holiday dollars. Used to be that the day after Thanksgiving, known as Black Friday, was when they'd focus their sales promotions. But increasingly, they've been pushing those promotions earlier on Friday, and eventually into the holiday itself, to grab deal-hungry shoppers' attention.

Bill Martin, co-founder of ShopperTrak, which tracks data at 70,000 stores globally, is expecting a sales increase of 3 percent to 5 percent to \$3.25 billion to \$3.75 billion on Thanksgiving. Last year's figure grew two-fold from the year be-

fore.

The National Retail Federation expects 25.6 million shoppers to take advantage of the Thanksgiving openings, down slightly down from last year.

Kathy Grannis, a spokeswoman at the retail trade group, said that earlier promotions in the month and shoppers' uncertainty about when they can get the best deals are factors that could lead to fewer shoppers coming out on the holiday. Not every store is opening on Thanksgiving, though. Some, including GameStop, Costco and Ikea, have said they won't open because they want their workers to enjoy the holiday with their families. □





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# City of Ferguson gives thanks after a quiet night

**TOM FOREMAN JR.**

**Associated Press**

**FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)** — Pro-

testers in Ferguson pressed pause Thursday as the city welcomed Thanksgiving, decorating boarded-up storefronts with some Dr. Seuss inspiration and gathering for church services — a stark contrast to previous days of outrage over the grand jury decision in the Michael Brown case.

No police officers or Missouri National Guard members stood sentry outside the Ferguson police station, which has been a nexus for protesters since Monday night's announcement that Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson, who is white, wouldn't be indicted for fatally shooting the unarmed black 18-year-old in August.

On that downtown street, beneath a lighted "Season's Greetings" garland, three children used paintbrushes to decorate the plywood covering many storefront windows that was put up to foil potential vandals. One quoted from "The Lorax" by Dr. Seuss: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."



**Snow falls as Missouri National Guard stand outside of the Ferguson Police Department in Ferguson, Mo. Protesters in Ferguson pressed pause Thursday as the city welcomed Thanksgiving, decorating boarded-up storefronts with some Dr. Seuss inspiration and gathering for church services — a stark contrast to previous days of outrage over the grand jury decision in the Michael Brown case. (AP Photo/Jeff Roberson)**

"We thought we'd do what we could to make it a little more attractive and then try to bring the kids into it and get them involved in making the businesses appear a little less scary, de-

pressing," said Leah Bailey, as her 7-year-old son Dennis climbed a ladder to finish an orange dragon. Since the grand jury's decision, protests have taken place across the country.

Most have been peaceful. But at least 130 demonstrators who refused to disperse during a Los Angeles protest were arrested Wednesday night, while 35 people were detained in Oakland following a march that deteriorated into unrest and vandalism, according to police officials.

Back in Ferguson, Greater St. Mark Family Church sits blocks from where several stores went up in flames after the grand jury announcement. A handful of people listened to the Rev. Tommie Pierson preach Thursday that the destruction and chaos was by "a small group of out-of-control people out there."

"They don't represent the community, they don't represent the mood nor

the feelings of the community," Pierson said. "I would imagine if you talked to them, they probably don't even live here. So, we don't want to be defined by what they did."

In downtown St. Louis, a group gathered near Busch Stadium for what organizer Paul Byrd called a "pro-community" car rally meant to be peaceful and counter the recent Ferguson violence he suggested has tarnished the region's image.

Byrd, a 45-year-old construction worker from Imperial, Missouri, declined to say whether he supported Wilson but noted, "I totally support police officers." The cruise was escorted by a city police vehicle; no protesters showed up. □

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# Supreme Court justice home after heart procedure

MARK SHERMAN  
SAM HANANEL

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was released from the hospital Thursday after having a heart stent implanted to clear a blocked artery, a spokeswoman for the high court said.

The 81-year-old justice, who was appointed by Democratic President Bill Clinton in 1993, has rejected suggestions from some liberals that she should step down and give President Barack Obama a chance to name her successor.

Her hospitalization just three weeks after elections handed Republicans control of the Senate raised anew the question whether Obama would be able to appoint a like-minded replacement.

Bader was sent home and was expected to be at work when the court hears its next round of oral arguments on

Monday, spokesman Kathy Arberg said.

Ginsburg was rushed to Med-Star Washington Hospital Center late Tuesday after experiencing discomfort during exercise with a personal trainer. Ginsburg's procedure came after a blockage was discovered in her right coronary artery, Arberg said.

She has had a series of health problems, including colorectal cancer in 1999 and pancreatic cancer in 2009. But the court's oldest justice has not missed any time on the job since joining the high court.

Ginsburg, who leads the court's liberal wing, has for years been fending off questions about whether she should retire and give a Democratic president a chance to name her successor.

In one sense, it's already late for that, because the Senate will be in Republican hands come January, making confirmation more difficult.



In this photo, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg smiles while speaking to the Northern Virginia Technology Council in Reston, Va. A Supreme Court spokeswoman says Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has been released from the hospital after having a heart stent implanted to clear a blocked artery.

Still, the picture would look worse yet for the Democrats if a Republican should win the presidential election in 2016. A retirement then by a liberal

justice would allow the appointment of a more conservative justice and potentially flip the outcome in important

5-4 decisions in death penalty, abortion, even gay rights cases in which the liberal side sometimes prevails. □

## Foster dad pleads guilty in hot car death

**WICHITA, Kan. (AP)** — A foster dad pleaded guilty this week to involuntary manslaughter for leaving a 10-month-old girl inside a sweltering car outside of his house in July while he and his partner smoked marijuana.

Sedgwick County District Attorney Marc Bennett has said Seth Jackson went to a drug dealer's house July 24 before picking up the girl from a baby sitter. After arriving home, he went inside with a 5-year-old child, but left the baby in the vehicle. It was around 90 de-

grees outside, and police say the girl was inside the car with the windows up for more than two hours. An autopsy showed she died of hyperthermia due to heat exposure. Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office spokesman Dan Dillon said authorities are identifying the child only be her initials, which are K.P.J. The affidavit said one of the foster parents realized that the baby was in the car when he heard a baby crying on a television show they were watching. The men rushed outside,

Jackson unlocked the vehicle and his partner removed the child.

The partner told investigators the girl was hot and stiff when he carried her into the house. As he called 911, Jackson attempted CPR but could not get the child's mouth open, according to the affidavit. Officers who responded found Jackson still on the phone when they arrived, making calls and repeatedly stating, "I left her in the car, she's dead, she's dead," according to the affidavit. □

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Philadelphia Archbishop Charles Chaput speaks during a news conference in Philadelphia. Roman Catholic leaders in Philadelphia are predicting as many as 2 million people could turn out to see Pope Francis during his first U.S. visit as pontiff in Sept. 2015.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

## Families asked to host visitors for Pope Francis's visit to America

**KATHY MATHESON**  
**Associated Press**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Residents of the Philadelphia area are being asked to show some brotherly love to those traveling to the city to see Pope Francis next year. With hotel rooms filling up fast for the Roman Catholic-sponsored World Meeting of Families, organizers hope to find more than 10,000 households willing to host guests in their spare bedrooms for a modest fee. It will be the first pontifical trip to the U.S. since 2008. "We hope that a large number of the people of Philadelphia — not just the Catholic community, but others — will open their homes to visitors from around the world," Arch-

bishop Charles Chaput said this week. Organizers estimate that as many as 15,000 people will attend the Sept. 22-25 conference, which offers workshops and seminars on strengthening family bonds. More than 1.5 million pilgrims are expected for the pontiff's two public appearances Sept. 26-27, including a festival and a Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. But the city only has 11,000 hotel rooms. Event planners have even looked at hotels 90 miles (145 kilometers) away in Baltimore, Chaput said. To supplement those beds, organizers have begun promoting a "Host a Family" effort, enlisting the Irish company Homestay to help match prospective

hosts and visitors. More than 100 families have registered so far, said Homestay CEO Alan Clarke, noting that travelers can begin booking their stays in the coming weeks. Church organizers suggest families charge \$30 to \$50 per night, which Clarke said is roughly the average price per night across Homestay's thousands of properties worldwide. The company takes a 10 percent cut as an administration fee. A similar hosting initiative was used at the last World Meeting of Families three years ago in Milan, Italy. Officials there reported 50,000 beds were used, according to Donna Crilley Farrell, executive director of Philadelphia's organizing committee. □

## US cathedral may become museum to the slave trade

**MICHELLE R. SMITH**  
**Associated Press**

**PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (AP)** — A plan to open what would be the only museum in the U.S. centered on the trans-Atlantic slave trade would focus on the Episcopal Church's role in its history and the sometimes-buried legacy of slavery in northern states.

The museum at the shuttered Cathedral of St. John, a church in Rhode Island state where slaves once worshipped, would explore how the church benefited from the trade and helped bring it to an end, said Bishop Nicholas Knisely of the Diocese of Rhode Island.

"Our story's mixed," he said. "We haven't talked in the country about the role of religion and religious voices in abolition and the slave trade."

To make it happen, the diocese is working with the Tracing Center, a group set up by descendants of what was once the nation's most prolific slave-trading family, and Brown University, which in recent years has worked to come to grips with its own connection to slavery.

The Rev. Canon Linda L. Grenz calls it a "teaching museum" and says it would be part of a larger project to show how people can use painful history to help overcome differences and be honest with one another.

Diocesan officials emphasize the plan is still in the early stages. They don't yet have a way to pay for converting the 200-year-old building, and they're not sure what they want it to look like.

A Brown report issued in 2006 found that about 60 percent of all slave-trading voyages launched from North America came from Rhode Island. More than 1,000 slave-trading voyages were launched from Rhode Island, the report says, and 80 of those came from one family, the DeWolfs of Bristol. James DeWolf Perry, executive director of the Massachusetts-based Tracing Center, which works to promote greater awareness of the legacy of slavery, is a descendent who is working with the diocese. His great-grandfather was bishop of Rhode Island, chose St. John's as the diocese's cathedral and served as the denomination's presiding bishop — its leader in the United States. "What's dropped out of our public memory, largely as a result of the Civil War, is that the North had a great deal of slavery," he said. "We like to talk about as if most Northerners were anti-slavery and abolitionists." In fact, the North benefited economically from slavery, and the Episcopal Church "institutionally was deeply complicit in slavery, benefited from it," he said. Several museums in the U.S. address slavery, but hardly any are specifically devoted to it, Perry said. One, the Whitney Plantation, is opening in Louisiana next month but focuses on plantation history and slavery in the South. □



# Obama's action fuels worry about immigration scams

ELLIOT SPAGAT  
Associated Press

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Advocacy groups barely waited for President Barack Obama to finish speaking about sweeping changes to the U.S. immigration system to start warning about scams. "We hear horror stories about people getting taken advantage of horribly," attorney Ginger Jacobs told several dozen people who watched the president's speech at Alliance San Diego offices. California Attorney General Kamala Harris and Mexican consulates sounded similar alarms after Obama promised executive action that is expected to shield about 5 million people from deportation. For decades, immigrants have fallen victim to attorneys and consultants who disappear with their money or give bad advice that may land them in deportation proceedings. "Anything related to immigration tends to have this activity associated with it," said Laura Vazquez, senior immigration legislative analyst at National Council of La Raza, a Latino ad-

vocacy group. "There are people who really want to get right with the law and seek any opportunity to adjust their status. They'll sometimes believe things that aren't true." Harris, whose state is home to an estimated 2.4 million people who immigrated to the U.S. illegally, issued a lengthy "consumer alert" Tuesday, saying changes of the magnitude Obama announced often invite con artists. Her tips include making sure that attorneys are licensed and advisers are recognized by the U.S. Justice Department's Board of Immigration Appeals. The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles warned of fraud when delivering Thanksgiving turkeys Wednesday and will repeat the message at a workshop next month at the Los Angeles Convention Center, said political director Apolonio Morales. The advocacy group recommends working through trusted community organizations. There have been few reports of efforts to profit from the president's announce-

ment, which promises work permits for parents of U.S. citizens and legal residents who have been in the country for five years and have a clean criminal record. It also makes more

tor of Bender's Immigration Bulletin, credits advocacy groups for aggressive outreach and says social media has allowed word of scams to spread quickly. The Federal Trade Com-

have anywhere to go," said California Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, a San Diego Democrat who plans to propose disclosure requirements for anyone selling services tied to Obama's moves. "It's in the shadows."

Kowalski, like many attorneys and advocates, believes it is too early to hire anyone because the government isn't expected to publish applications for three to six months.

"There's no application date, there's no form, there's no procedure," he said. "Anyone who pays a dime is gambling."

Waiting is the hardest part for some. A woman at the San Diego gathering to watch Obama's speech asked if someone who gets stopped by police would be deported before applying. Jacobs said she didn't know but that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was unlikely to expel someone who qualifies under Obama's announcement. She recommended carrying children's birth certificates, leases and other documents.



**Jackelin Alfaro, 5, a U.S. citizen whose father Oscar Alfaro is from Honduras, and will be helped by the president's executive order on immigration, throws leaves up in the air she plays during a rally in Lafayette Park across from the White House in Washington, thanking President Obama for his executive action on illegal immigration.**

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

people who arrived as young children eligible to stay. Some are encouraged that a 2012 reprieve for some young immigrants didn't produce widespread abuse. Dan Kowalski, edi-

mission reported 891 complaints for immigration services last year, up from 746 the previous year but down from 1,220 in 2011. The extent of abuse is believed to be underreported. "A lot of immigrants don't

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# New Ukraine parliament called to fight corruption

**PETER LEONARD**  
**Associated Press**

**KIEV, Ukraine (AP)** — Ukraine's president set out a strongly reformist agenda during the inaugural session of parliament Thursday, calling for the immediate overhaul of a justice system he said was corrupted from the top down. Petro Poroshenko said a successful reform program would enable Ukraine to consider applying for European Union membership within five years. Combatting corruption and re-orienting Ukraine toward Europe, and away from Russia, have been dominant themes of national politics since former President Viktor Yanukovich was ousted in February after months of protest. Since a vote last month that ushered in a raft of pro-Western parties, Yanukovich's Party of Regions is no longer represented in parliament, although some of his erstwhile allies were elected within the Opposition Bloc. Poroshenko said the justice system's shortcomings posed a national security risk.

"It is quite clear that the primary reason for the low standard of life of the majority of Ukrainians is the totally corrupted government apparatus," he said. A preliminary governing coalition was formed last week, uniting five parties intent on guiding Ukraine toward integration with Europe and potentially NATO. Poroshenko said Ukraine should shed prohibitions forbidding it from joining military blocs such as NATO. "The non-aligned status voted for in 2010 has not been able and will not be able to guarantee the security and territorial unity of our country," he said. The new parliament draws together a colorful variety of political figures, including crusading anti-corruption campaigners, commanders of paramilitary units fighting Russian-backed separatists in the east, and remnants of Yanukovich's entourage. One deputy, Nadezhda Savchenko, is awaiting trial in a Russian prison after she was captured by Russian-backed militia during fighting in eastern Ukraine



European Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Johannes Hahn, left, speaks with Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko, second left, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, right, and parliament speaker Volodymyr Groisman in Kiev, Ukraine, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. Parliament in Ukraine has opened for its first session since an election last month that ushered in a spate of pro-Western parties.

(AP Photo/Andrew Kravchenko, Pool)

in June. Russian investigators accuse Savchenko, a Ukrainian air force officer, of involvement in the killing of two Russian journalists. A photo of a parliamentary oath signed by Savchenko flashed on a screen in parliament during the inauguration. The largest forces in parliament are Prime Minister Ar-

seniy Yatsenyuk's Popular Front, Poroshenko's party and Samopomich, a new pro-European party based in western Ukraine. Those groups, along with the Fatherland party of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and the Radical Party, make up the coalition. Poroshenko said in his speech to parliament that

the coalition would strive to maintain the unity of Ukraine, which has been severely tested by Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula and ongoing fighting against separatists. "One hundred percent are for a unified state, for a unified country," Poroshenko said. "There will be no federalization." □

## Israel says it busted cell planning attacks

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Israel's Shin Bet security service said Thursday it had uncovered a vast Hamas network in the West Bank that was planning large-scale attacks against Israelis in Jerusalem. The Shin Bet said it arrested more than 30 Hamas militants who planned to kidnap Israelis and carry out attacks against Jerusalem's light rail and its largest soccer stadium, among other targets. It said the men were trained and recruited in Jordan and Turkey and that various arms and explosives were recovered. While the Islamic militant group Hamas rules the Gaza Strip, the West Bank is run by Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. The arrests come amid Is-

rael's worst sustained bout of violence in nearly a decade. Eleven Israelis have been killed in Palestinian attacks over the past month, including five people who were killed with guns and meat cleavers in a bloody assault on a Jerusalem synagogue last week. Most of the violence has occurred in Jerusalem, along with deadly attacks in Tel Aviv and the West Bank. In Qatar, Hamas spokesman Husam Bardan didn't deny the Israeli claims. "We are proud of our resistance enterprise and we are proud of every single fighter in our movement," he said in a statement. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu congratulated the Shin Bet for thwarting the attacks, saying that if carried out they

could have exacted a heavy casualty toll. "This is one operation that has been published but there are many more that remain secret," he said of Israel's intelligence work. "These foiling activities are against terrorists and against Hamas, which challenges the existence of a Jewish nation-state and the existence of Jews in general." Israel battled Hamas militants in Gaza during a 50-day war last summer. On Thursday, the Israeli military said an army vehicle patrolling the border fence came under fire from Gaza. It said Israeli forces fired back at the source of the gunfire. There were no injuries on the Israeli side, and no immediate comment from officials in Gaza. □



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## North Korean leader's sister named as senior official

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)** — North Korea has revealed that leader Kim Jong Un's younger sister is a senior official in the ruling Workers' Party, strengthening analysts' views that she is an increasingly important part of the family dynasty that runs the country.

State media on Thursday referred to Kim Yo Jong as a departmental vice director within the party's Central Committee.

Analysts say the mention could signal her growing role in supporting her brother's authoritarian rule. The siblings' late father, former leader Kim Jong Il, was seen as relying on his own sister during his 17-year rule. Outsiders closely study North Korea's opaque ruling power dynamics for clues about a secretive country that pursues nuclear weapons and threatens its neighbors with war.

The Korean Central News Agency first referred to Kim Yo Jong as a senior official in the Central Committee in March, but this is the first time state media have specified her role.

Yang Moo-jin, a North Korea expert at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul, said a departmental vice director is roughly equivalent to a vice Cabinet minister. The announcement of Kim Yo Jong's role shows that the government is now confident enough to introduce her as an important part of its leadership, Yang said.

Cheong Seong-chang, an analyst at South Korea's private Sejong Institute, said Kim Yo Jong is likely to have greater influence than other departmental vice directors because she is a member of the Kim family. In establishing his sister in a senior role in the ruling party, Kim Jong

Un is further strengthening his control of North Korea's power elite, Cheong said.

Since taking over North Korea's leadership following the death of his father in 2011, Kim Jong Un has removed key members of the old guard. The process was highlighted by the 2013 execution of his uncle, Jang Song Thaek, the husband of Kim Jong Il's influential sister. Jang, who was once considered the second most powerful man in North Korea, was accused of treason.

Kim Jong Un's most influential advisers now appear to be Choe Ryong Hae, the secretary of the party's Central Committee who recently visited Russia as a special envoy, and Hwang Pyong So, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army.



A TV news program shows Kim Yo Jong, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's younger sister, at Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. North Korea has revealed that Kim is a senior official in the ruling Workers' Party, strengthening analysts' views that she is an increasingly important part of the family dynasty that runs the country. The letters read "Kim Jong Un's sister".

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

## Mosul residents: IS cuts phones in Iraq city

**SAMEER N. YACIOUB**

**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Militants from the Islamic State group blocked all mobile phone networks in the largest Iraqi city they control, Mosul, accusing informants in the city of tipping off coalition forces to their whereabouts, residents told The Associated Press on Thursday. Residents described a scene of "chaos" and "paralysis" in the city Thursday, a day after the militants announced their decision on their Mosul-based radio network. Businesses were at a standstill as residents tried to understand what was happening, they said. Some are still able to access the Internet, which operates under a different network. All residents spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal.

The militants seized the city in June during their

lightning advance across northern Iraq, after the Iraqi military virtually crumbled when confronted by the group. The U.S. began launching airstrikes on Aug. 8 and has conducted at least 22 strikes around the city of Mosul alone.

The city has come to represent the expanding power and influence of the extremist group, which was born in Iraq but spread to Syria, where it grew exponentially in the chaos of the country's civil war. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the group's reclusive leader, made his first video appearance in Mosul in July to announce his vision for a self-styled caliphate, a form of Islamic state.

Baghdad-based political analyst Hadi Jalo said that this move by the IS group is a clear sign that the militants are losing confidence after a string of recent

victories by Iraqi troops, backed by Shiite and Kurdish militiamen.

"Even the people in Mosul, who hate the Shiite-led government, are becoming less sympathetic with the militants — whose main victims are Sunnis, not Shiites, nowadays," said Jalo. An official in one of the Iraqi mobile phone operators said his company is investigating the issue, but declined to give further details. The shutting down of phone lines is a notable change from what has been the group's core strategy so far — focusing on providing services and establishing administration in areas it controls to win support of the locals. In parts of Syria under its control, the group now administers courts, fixes roads and even polices traffic. It recently imposed a curriculum in schools in its Syr-

ian stronghold, Raqqa, scrapping subjects such as philosophy and chemistry, and fine-tuning the sciences to fit with its ideology.

In Syria, government warplanes kept up air raids on the northern city of Raqqa, the de facto capital of the Islamic State group, killing at least seven people Thursday, activists said.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said one of the raids struck the house of a judge facing the Islamic State group's tax collection center. Another air raid targeted an IS group checkpoint. An activist who uses the name Abu Ibrahim al-Raqqawi said eight airstrikes killed at least seven people, including four women and a child. Al-Raqqawi, who is based outside Syria, heads a collective of activists on the ground in Raqqa.





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## Hong Kong: Student protest leader banned from site

**KELVIN CHAN**  
**Associated Press**

**HONG KONG (AP)** — A Hong Kong court on Thursday banned a high-profile student leader from going near a recently cleared protest site, constraining the pro-democracy movement as it enters a third month.

Joshua Wong, an 18-year-old who has become the most prominent of Hong Kong's protest leaders, was also given bail and his case adjourned until January 14. Wong was among a group of protesters arrested during an operation by authorities the day before to finish clearing the protest site in the volatile Mong Kok neighborhood.

Police and court officers moved swiftly to shut down the camp on a busy road, arresting more than 150 people during the operation and in ensuing scuffles on surrounding streets. The

site had been one of three across the city occupied by protesters demanding greater democratic reforms than those allowed by Beijing.

Wong, head of the Scholasticism group, was arrested along with another popular leader, Lester Shum, second-in-command of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, and pro-democracy lawmaker Leung Kwok-hung. They also faced the same conditions. The arrests come as the democracy protest movement moves into a critical phase. The student groups have played key roles in organizing the protests but are now fighting to maintain momentum as the protests drag on with little to show for their efforts while the government patiently waits it out and police step up aggressive tactics.

Yvonne Leung, another Federation of Students

leader, told a local radio station that the group would soon announce plans to escalate their tactics if police did not back off, which could include targeting "government-related" buildings or departments. She was not more specific.

Wong rose to prominence leading a campaign that in 2012 forced the government to back down from a plan to introduce Chinese patriotic education in schools that many saw as brainwashing. He told reporters after leaving court that he thought he was targeted by police while observing the barricade clearance.

"The clearance operation leader pointed to me and said 'arrest him'," Wong said. "Ten officers in blue shirts charged in front of me, pressed me to the ground and stopped me from moving. □"



Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, left, speaks as she holds the hand of Lilian Tintori, wife of imprisoned opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, during a press conference in Caracas, Venezuela, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

## Venezuela opposition leader Machado will appear in court

**HANNAH DREIER**  
**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado said Thursday she will continue working toward a peaceful change of Venezuela's government even as she complies with an order to face charges of plotting to kill the president.

Venezuela's chief prosecutor on Wednesday ordered the former congresswoman to appear in court next week on charges of participating in what the government described back in May as a U.S.-backed plot to assassinate socialist President Nicolas Maduro. She denies the allegations.

Machado told journalists the charges are further evidence that the Maduro administration has become a dictatorship and said the charges may have been retribution for demanding the resignation of national election council leaders earlier Wednesday.

"Maduro is trying to bring chaos to Venezuela, and we are in danger," she said. Together with fellow opposition leader Leopoldo

do Lopez, Machado called tens of thousands of demonstrators into the streets to protest the government earlier this year. The strategy brought them into conflict with more moderate opposition leaders who were advocating gradual electoral change.

Lopez was arrested nine months ago for his role in the sometimes violent protests. He turned himself in during an emotional public event.

It's unclear whether Machado will take a similar path should authorities move to detain her. She is the only opposition leader implicated in the purported plot still living in Venezuela. The government has broadcast emails on national television that officials say prove Machado was plotting with hostile governments to topple Maduro.

Opposition leaders did launch a short-lived coup against Maduro's mentor, the late President Hugo Chavez, in 2002. Two years later, Machado accepted money from the U.S. government to finance a recall effort against Chavez. □



Prominent Hong Kong student protest leader Joshua Wong, left, talks to reporters outside a court in Hong Kong Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. Wong and other democracy protesters were arrested during a police operation to remove barricades from a protest camp in the unruly Mong Kok district. Wong was given bail and his case adjourned until January 14.

(AP Photo/Vincent Yu)





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# Mexico president announces anti-crime crackdown

MARK STEVENSON

JOSE RIVERA

Associated Press

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexico's president announced a nationwide anti-crime plan Thursday that would allow Congress to dissolve local governments infiltrated by drug gangs and give state authorities control over often-corrupt municipal police.

The plan announced by President Enrique Peña Nieto came two months after 43 teachers college students disappeared in the Guerrero city of Iguala, allegedly killed and incinerated by a drug gang working with local police. Huge marches have been held to protest their disappearance. Peña Nieto suggested his plan was influenced by the Iguala tragedy, noting its "cruelty and barbarity have shocked Mexico." "Mexico cannot go on like this," he said. "After Iguala, Mexico must change."

As if to underscore the problem, authorities said Thursday that they had found the decapitated, partly burned bodies of 11 men dumped on the side of a road near another

Guerrero city.

The president's plan would also relax the complex divisions between which offenses are dealt with at

federal, state and local levels. At present, some local police refuse to act to prevent federal crimes like drug trafficking. It would also seek to establish a na-

tional identity number or document, though it was unclear what form that would take.

The plan would focus first

"hot land" region overlapping the first two states, where the government has already sent significant contingents of federal po-

lice and soldiers. "My response to the police operation in the 'hot lands' is: 'What? Another one?'" said Mexico City-based security analyst Alejandro

Hope, alluding to a string of previous anti-crime initiatives in the area. "The same as the others, for a limited time and without the right conditions?"

The reforms, some of which would require constitutional changes, will be formally presented next week. They would include a single, nationwide emergency telephone number, which the president said could be "911," as in the United States. But Peña Nieto was vague in describing some of the proposals.

Dissolving local governments could open the door to political vendettas unless strict prerequisites are set for such actions, Hope said. And centralizing police command has not improved forces in many cases so far.

The focus on corrupt local governments reflects the shocking accusations made about the mayor of Iguala, Jose Luis Abarca. Prosecutors say he collaborated with a local drug gang and ordered the detention of the students by local police, who turned them over to gang gunmen.



Mexico's President Enrique Peña Nieto speaks during a ceremony at the National Palace in Mexico City, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. Mexico's president announced a new anti-crime plan that includes proposals for a nationwide ID, giving Congress the power to dissolve corrupt municipal government and fold their often-corrupt local police forces under the control of the country's 31 state governments.

(AP Photo/Eduardo Verdugo)

# Venezuela says 13 dead in prison disturbance

JORGE RUEDA

J. GOODMAN

Associated Press

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Venezuela's government said at least 13 prisoners died of drug overdoses after inmates stormed a prison infirmary during protests demanding better living conditions, though activists on Thursday questioned the official version and said the death toll could be far higher.

The disturbances at the David Vilorio penitentiary began Monday when a group

of inmates went on a hunger strike seeking to force out the jail's new warden, the Prisons Ministry said.

National Guardsmen were called in to restore calm and dozens of prisoners were transferred. The government said 145 inmates were being treated for intoxication. The situation remained tense Thursday, and prisoner rights activists expressed doubt about the government's version, calling for an investigation to determine why inmates would have voluntarily tak-

en highly toxic medicines. "I don't think anyone is so stupid to ingest drugs just as a form of protest," Humberto Prado, coordinator of the Venezuelan Observatory of Prisons, told The Associated Press.

Prado said the death toll might be as high as 25, according to reports from inmates' relatives and activists on the ground at hospitals and the morgue in the western city of Barquisimeto, where the prison is.

The government said the situation was under con-

trol and all prisoners' rights were being respected.

Venezuela's prison population has doubled since 2008 as a result of rampant crime and stiffer mandatory sentences. Overall, the country's 32 correction facilities are the fifth most-crowded in the world, housing almost three times their intended capacity, according to the London-based International Centre for Prison Studies. The David Vilorio prison is named for a guard who was one of 58 people killed at the facility last year dur-

ing the second-deadliest prison riot in Venezuela's history. Prado said the facility, previously called La Uribana, was built to hold no more than 850 inmates but was believed to be holding around 3,700 before the latest disturbances. Prado's group said that so far this year 150 inmates have died and 110 more injured in the country's lock-ups.

"Prison life is real tough in the world, but unfortunately in Venezuela it can be a death sentence," he said.



# Bahamas fends off critics over new migrant rules

**AVA TURNQUEST  
BEN FOX**

**Associated Press**

**NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)**

— On the first day new immigration rules took effect this month in the Bahamas, officers in green fatigues swept through poor sections of the capital filling two yellow school buses with dozens of people who couldn't document their right to be in the island chain.

The government, amid fierce criticism of the raid, later insisted the timing of the operation was coinci-

population of more than 18 percent, according to an official report released last month. While the precise number of those who migrated illegally is unclear, the islands long have drawn migrants sailing from nearby Haiti. Census figures from 2010 show more than one out of 10 people in the Bahamas is Haitian, up from 3.6 percent in 1970.

Mitchell said haphazard enforcement of existing laws has put too many people in legal limbo and has made the Bahamas a magnet for migrants, ar-

ers.'"

Martinez also said conditions at the detention center where migrants are held are "appalling," with heavy crowding and poor access to adequate food, sanitation or medical care. The government says it's working to reduce the population in the detention center and sent two plane-loads of migrants to Haiti on Wednesday. "In the Bahamas, they treat Haitians like dogs," Youtchike Dormeus, an 18-year-old deportee, said as she got off the plane in Port-au-

passports and other documents needed by Haitians. He has defended the new policies in blunt terms. "You can't just jump off a boat with your wet feet and come into the immigration department and apply for a work permit," he told Parliament.

The new rules may be particularly tricky for people who were born in the Bahamas to people who migrated illegally. While the constitution allowed them to apply for Bahamian citizenship, many did not. Now, before they can seek



**Haitians repatriated from the Bahamas, wait in line for transportation, at the Toussaint Louverture International Airport, after landing in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014. Bahamas faces storm of criticism after tightening rules for migrant workers, mostly from Haiti.**

dence. Still, the message of the surprise morning raid, in which the officers were accompanied by local media, couldn't be clearer: The Bahamas aims to become less hospitable to its swelling population of migrants lacking legal status.

"The fact is that illegal migration is a huge problem for us," Foreign Minister Fred Mitchell said in a recent interview. "We spend enormous resources for it. It is a drain on our social services, health care and education and we need to get the matter under control."

The island chain of about 360,000 has a foreign-born

living often in dangerously overloaded smuggling vessels.

But the manner in which the Bahamas is carrying out this tightening of its borders is coming under criticism from human rights activists, who complain of arbitrary and heavy-handed enforcement that is sparking fear in the shantytowns where many migrants live.

"People are afraid to go to work," said Annette Martinez, a human rights lawyer documenting the situation with local activists. "They say 'We are afraid because at any moment the immigration officers will come or their bosses will identify them as foreign-

Prince. The country, which denies treating anyone inhumanely, has deported 3,000 people this year.

Under the new rules that took effect Nov. 1, everyone must have the passport of their nationality and, if they are not a Bahamian, a valid residency or work stamp. In addition, the government is tightening the process for employers to receive work permits for non-Bahamians and requiring first-time applicants for residency permits to apply in their home countries. Mitchell says the Bahamas briefed Haiti's government before the new rules took affect and was assured it could provide the

legal status — a process that has no guaranteed outcome — they first will need to obtain passports from "home countries" they may never have seen. A similar situation has been playing out in the Dominican Republic, which borders Haiti and is attempting to regulate a much larger population of people lacking legal status.

Heleen Gelin, a 25-year-old Bahamian-born Haitian, has submitted her application for citizenship but says it has been a difficult process, with immigration officials giving conflicting information and she doesn't know if she will secure legal residency.□

## CARIBBEAN News Briefs

### Tobago police arrest alleged narco courier

**PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad**

**(AP)** — Police in Trinidad & Tobago have arrested an alleged drug mule as he was attempting to board a flight destined for London. The suspect was arrested at Tobago's international airport on drug-smuggling charges and was being held at a lockup on the island located some 30 kilometers (19 miles) northeast of Venezuela. Agents with the organized crime bureau say they found nearly 15 pounds (7 kilograms) of cocaine in his luggage. They say the drugs were stuffed in five bottles wrapped in plastic. The man's name and nationality was not immediately released. He was trying to get on a flight to London's Gatwick airport operated by U.K.-based Monarch Airlines.□

### 5 Guyana men report escaping trafficking ring

**GEORGETOWN, Guyana**

**(AP)** — Officials say five men from Guyana were lured to neighboring Suriname with promises of good wages, but ended up working in slave-like conditions. Guyana's foreign affairs ministry says the five were recruited to work as farm laborers in Suriname's remote interior. But when they got there they were forced into unpaid labor. Thursday's statement from the ministry says the men escaped to Suriname's coastal capital and alerted police. Suriname authorities contacted their Guyana counterparts. Investigators in both countries have launched a human trafficking probe. Officials are urging citizens to be wary of "too lucrative to be true job offers" outside of Guyana, especially when work permits are not secured in advance. Guyana is also grappling with the trafficking of underage girls to mining camps in its own rural interior.□





## The Giannopoulos, Vincenti, & Babigian Families Celebrate Thanksgiving on the Beach on Aruba!

### PALM BEACH -

The Giannopoulos, Vincenti, and Babigian families are annual Thanksgiving visitors to Aruba. They all own timeshare at the Marriott. As they put it, Aruba has been their 'second home' for many years. They emailed these awesome photos to the Aruba Today Newspaper, their favorite daily newspaper in English on Aruba, figuring we would like to share them with our readers: they were right! The children from the different families, led by James Russo and Nick Giannopoulos, made this awesome turkey on the beach in front of the Marriott Surf Club, where everyone who sees it is enjoying taking family pictures with it! Talk about Surf and Turf!

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new toys are preferred.) All gifts must be in by December 17, 2014 in order to have time for volunteers to wrap them.

Coldwell Banker Aruba Realty wishes you all Happy Holidays and hope that you'll make room in your busy schedules for someone less fortunate than you. Our office is located at the new Super Food Plaza. Office hours are from 8.30 am – 5.30 pm, or drop your toys off at: Top 1 Toys, DA or Plaza Bookshop. ☐

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<p><b>Café The Plaza</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Erwtensoeop</td><td>US\$ 6</td></tr> <tr><td>Varilleijs met advokaat en boerenjengens</td><td>US\$ 7</td></tr> <tr><td>Nasi met sate en ei</td><td>US\$ 10</td></tr> <tr><td>Zuurkool met rookworst en jus</td><td>US\$ 10</td></tr> <tr><td>Frietje Stoofvlees</td><td>US\$ 10</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Casa Tua</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Trio of daily tapas</td><td>US\$ 18.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Pette pizza with clams (new recipe)</td><td>US\$ 12.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Pasta with smoked salmon in creamy sauce</td><td>US\$ 19</td></tr> <tr><td>Fondant au chocolat with citrus coulis and fresh berries</td><td>US\$ 8.50</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Cuba's Cookin'</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Local special menu</td><td>AWG 28.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Grouper fillet with salsa criollo, hunchi, pan bati &amp; fried plantain</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><b>Starbucks</b></p> <p>10% discount on beverage &amp; food</p> <p><b>The Dutch Pancake House</b></p> <p>15% discount on the final check</p> <p><b>Rage Silver</b></p> <p>20% OFF on selected items</p>	Erwtensoeop	US\$ 6	Varilleijs met advokaat en boerenjengens	US\$ 7	Nasi met sate en ei	US\$ 10	Zuurkool met rookworst en jus	US\$ 10	Frietje Stoofvlees	US\$ 10	Trio of daily tapas	US\$ 18.50	Pette pizza with clams (new recipe)	US\$ 12.50	Pasta with smoked salmon in creamy sauce	US\$ 19	Fondant au chocolat with citrus coulis and fresh berries	US\$ 8.50	Local special menu	AWG 28.50	Grouper fillet with salsa criollo, hunchi, pan bati & fried plantain		<p><b>Yogen Früz</b></p> <p>With every purchase of AWG 10 or more, receive a FREE cone</p> <p><b>City Fashion &amp; Gift Shop</b></p> <p>Sale 10% discount on dresses</p> <p>Accessories US\$ 5</p> <p>Sale on beach bags</p> <p><b>Jay-zi Surf &amp; Gift Shop</b></p> <p>Sale on Aruba t-shirt</p> <p>Sale on dresses &amp; accessories</p> <p>3 beach bags for US\$ 15.00</p> <p><b>Sea Salt Grill</b></p> <p>5% discount on final check</p> <p><b>Hopi Bon Teppan Grill</b></p> <p><b>PASTA NIGHT!!!</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Price starting at</td><td>US\$ 14</td></tr> <tr><td>Choose your pasta, sauce and toppings (chicken, meatballs, shrimp, beef tenderloin, seafood mix)</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><b>Grand Cafe Tropical</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Balashi &amp; Balashi Chili</td><td>US\$ 3</td></tr> <tr><td>Bacardi drinks</td><td>US\$ 4</td></tr> </table>	Price starting at	US\$ 14	Choose your pasta, sauce and toppings (chicken, meatballs, shrimp, beef tenderloin, seafood mix)		Balashi & Balashi Chili	US\$ 3	Bacardi drinks	US\$ 4	<p><b>Sushi Ya &amp; NextDoor</b></p> <p>With every purchase of US\$ 30 or more, receive US\$ 5 OFF</p> <p>With every purchase of US\$ 50 or more, receive US\$ 10 OFF</p> <p><b>Cilo City Lounge</b></p> <p><b>3 Course Menu</b> US\$ 30</p> <p><b>Entree</b></p> <p>Fish and shrimp chowder <b>or</b> Watermelon salad: watermelon with rocket lettuce and feta cheese, dressed with a chili-soya sauce</p> <p><b>Main Course</b></p> <p>Red Snapper Filet: pan-fried red snapper served with pan bati and fried plantain with a Creole sauce <b>or</b> Ossu Bucco: served with pomme duchesse and a red wine mushroom sauce</p> <p><b>Dessert</b></p> <p>Dulce de Leche</p> <p>Cheesecake with caramel</p> <p><b>Häagen Dazs</b></p> <p>1 FREE topping with the purchase of an ice cream</p> <p><b>Champagne</b></p> <p>10% - 25% OFF</p> <p>*Offer excludes Swarovski</p> <p><b>Dunkin' Donuts</b></p> <p>Buy 3 donuts &amp; get 3 donuts for FREE</p>
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of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Kurt and Mrs. Tracey Doiron from Milmar, Massachusetts. Kurt and Tracey are loyal guests of the Bucuti and Tara Beach

Resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, safety and being on Aruba and staying at the Bucuti is like being home for them and the wonderful staff of the resort is like family to them. The



certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority

together with management and staff members of the Bucuti and Tara Beach Resort.





Australia's Adam Scott chips from a green side during the first round of the Australian Open golf championship in Sydney, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. Scott is 3 over after shooting a 74.

## Scott shoots 66 to move up at Australian Open

By DENNIS PASSA  
AP Sports Writer

**SYDNEY (AP)** -- Adam Scott shot a 5-under 66 Friday to put himself back in contention at the Australian Open after starting the round in danger of missing the cut.

Starting on the 10th tee, Scott made quick amends for a 74 Thursday which left him in 82nd place. He eagled the par-5 14th and had two birdies to make the turn in 32, then birdied the par-4 sixth coming home at The Australian Golf Club.

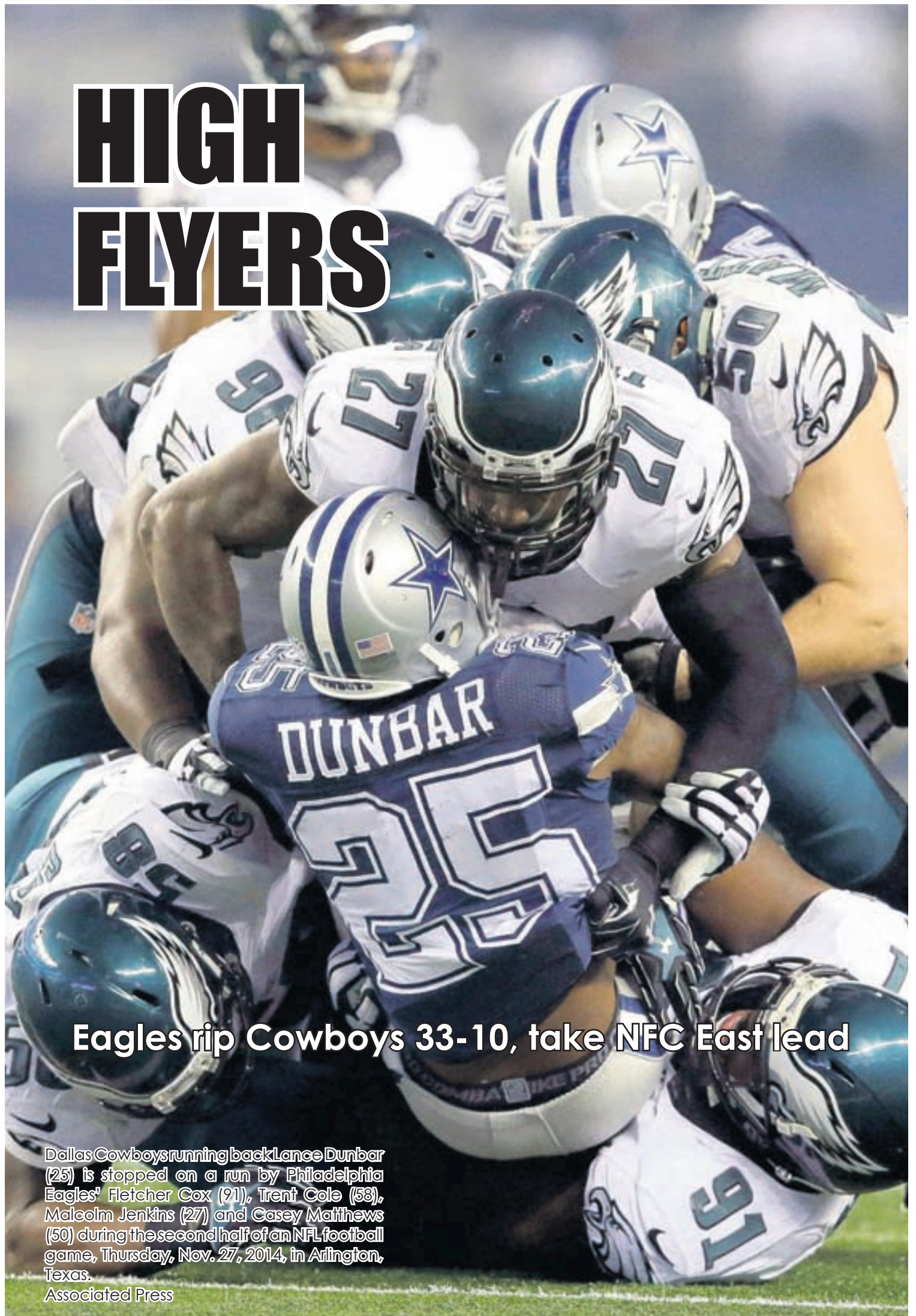
He was tied for fifth at 2-under with the afternoon field just beginning their rounds.

First-round leader Jordan Spieth of the United States, who led by one after Thursday and was playing with Scott, shot 72 Friday and was tied for the early clubhouse lead at 3-under 139.

Defending champion Rory McIlroy, who opened with a 69, had an afternoon tee time.

Continued on page 21

# HIGH FLYERS



## Eagles rip Cowboys 33-10, take NFC East lead

Dallas Cowboys running back Lance Dunbar (25) is stopped on a run by Philadelphia Eagles' Fletcher Cox (91), Trent Cole (53), Malcolm Jenkins (27) and Casey Matthews (50) during the second half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press



# Eagles roll over Cowboys 33-10 for NFC East lead

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) --

LeSean McCoy is looking more like the NFL rushing champion of a year ago, and Mark Sanchez is getting more comfortable in Philadelphia's offense.

McCoy ran for 159 yards and a touchdown, Sanchez had his first scoring run in almost three years and the Eagles beat the Dallas Cowboys 33-10 in a Thanksgiving battle of NFC East co-leaders Thursday.

The Eagles (9-3) opened with quick drives of 80 and 88 yards for touchdowns. They took sole possession of the division lead with four games remaining, including a rematch in less than three weeks.

Tony Romo looked ragged in the first quick turnaround for his surgically repaired back as the Cowboys (8-4) lost their third straight home game.



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Mark Sanchez (3) scores a touchdown against the Dallas Cowboys during the first half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014, in Arlington, Texas. Associated Press

McCoy, who led the NFL with 1,604 yards last season, had his fourth 100-yard game in the past seven af-

ter going without one the first five weeks and secured his fourth 1,000-yard season since 2010.

Although his deficit to Dallas' DeMarco Murray in the rushing race is probably insurmountable, McCoy

outgained Murray, who was held under 100 yards for just the second time this season. McCoy averaged 6.4 yards on 25 carries on the same field where he clinched the rushing title last December while the Eagles beat the Cowboys in a playoffs-or-bust finale. Murray finished with 73 yards and Dallas' only touchdown on 20 carries, the last a 6-yard loss when he was dropped by Mychal Kendricks on fourth-and-1 early in the fourth quarter. Making his fourth start since Nick Foles was sidelined by a broken collarbone, Sanchez was 9 of 11 for 99 yards in the first quarter. That included a 27-yard scoring pass to Jordan Matthews when Sanchez hit the rookie in stride on a crossing route for a 14-0 lead. Sanchez finished 20 of 29 for 217 yards with a touchdown and no interceptions.

Continued on page 19

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Continued from page 18

The Cowboys looked a little sluggish following a kickoff that came about 90 hours after their dramatic 31-28 victory at the New York Giants on Sunday night.

Murray had room to run at times but couldn't break one longer than 9 yards. Romo had plenty of time to throw most of the day, but one time in the first half tossed a third-down pass to nobody in particular, giving the ball back to the Eagles when the Cowboys were having trouble stopping them.

Playing on short rest for the first time since December back surgery and yet another injury on a sack against Washington last month, Romo looked skittish at times.

The 34-year-old quarterback essentially sat down in the pocket with nobody in position to sack him on a third-down play after Jeremy Mincey recovered McCoy's fumble at the Philadelphia 13 on the second



Dallas Cowboys' Dwayne Harris (17) takes a swing at Philadelphia Eagles' Chris Prosinski (33) as a fight broke out after the Cowboys punted the ball during the second half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014, in Arlington, Texas. The Eagles won 33-10. Associated Press

play of the second half.

The Cowboys had to settle for a field goal, and Philadelphia answered immediately on McCoy's 38-yard scoring run, putting the Eagles up 30-10 on their third

touchdown drive of at least 80 yards.

Romo was sacked four times and finished 18 of 29 for 199 yards with two interceptions and no touchdowns, snapping a streak

of 38 games with at least one TD pass.

McCoy had a 36-yard run on the opening drive that ended with Sanchez's 2-yarder after faking the handoff to McCoy in the

zone read. It was Sanchez's first scoring run since Dec. 24, 2011, when he was the starter for the New York Jets.

He kept the ball until he reached the sideline. □



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## Johnson shines in Detroit's 34-17 win over Chicago

By NOAH TRISTER

AP Sports Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** -- After a week of questions about his limited production of late, Calvin Johnson lifted Detroit's offense with an emphatic reminder that he's still one of the game's most dynamic players.

Johnson caught 11 passes for 146 yards with a pair of first-half touchdowns, and the Lions boosted their postseason hopes with a 34-17 victory over the Chicago Bears on Thursday. Johnson had been held under 60 yards in two of three games since returning from an ankle injury, and there were rumblings that the 29-year-old receiver was slowing down, but he quieted a lot of those concerns with perhaps his best game of the season.

"Guys still believe in what we got going here," Johnson said. "We had a good week of practice - it was a very short week, but we were very detailed in what we did on the field, coaches taking care of us. It's our part to come out here and do our job on the field."

After losing at Arizona and New England and falling out of first place in the NFC North, the Lions (8-4) spotted Chicago a 14-3 first-quarter lead before rallying with relative ease in the second.

Detroit finished with a season-high 474 yards in its highest-scoring game since a 35-14 victory over the New York Giants in its opener.

Joique Bell ran for two touchdowns for the Lions, and Jay Cutler threw two TD passes for Chicago (5-7). Detroit's Matthew Stafford went 34 of 45 for 390 yards with the two touchdown passes to Johnson. The Lions have now won back-to-back games on



**Detroit Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson (81) is tackled by Chicago Bears inside linebacker Christian Jones (59) after his 9-yard reception during the first half of an NFL football game in Detroit, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2014. With this catch, Johnson set a new NFL record for fewest games (115) to reach 10,000 career receiving yards.**

Associated Press

Thanksgiving after losing their previous nine. They beat Green Bay 40-10 last year.

That victory over the Packers was Detroit's only win in its final seven games last season as the Lions frittered away a playoff spot. They are again in mix for the postseason this year, and Thursday's game was their first of three in a row at home - all against teams with losing records.

"Every single week there's a new challenge. We have a new one next week," Lions coach Jim Caldwell said. "The minute you get comfortable at any stage in our league you're going to have problems."

Detroit came in with the league's top-ranked run defense, and Chicago

barely even tried to test it. Matt Forte was a non-factor on the ground, finishing with 6 yards on five carries. Cutler went 31 of 48 for 280 yards with two fourth-quarter interceptions.

Chicago's imbalanced game plan came only a few days after New England relied heavily on the pass in its victory over the Lions last weekend.

"I think they look at the numbers and make an assessment of what they think they can do," Caldwell said. "Not everybody looks at it the same way, but the last couple weeks it's been that way."

The Bears opened the scoring on Cutler's 10-yard scoring pass to Alshon Jeffery, and they scored again after Jared Allen sacked Staf-

ford, forced a fumble and recovered it at the Detroit 5. Cutler's 6-yard scoring pass to Jeffery made it 14-3 with 3:35 remaining in the first quarter.

Stafford, however, was brilliant in the second. Johnson made a leaping catch for a 25-yard touchdown, holding on despite a hit from defensive back Kyle Fuller. That was the first time Detroit had reached the end zone since Nov. 9 against Miami - and a sign that the Lions were shaking off some of the problems with their passing game.

"I don't know that they really did anything that we didn't expect, although they didn't have the drops that we've seen on film, or make the other mistakes that shut down offenses,"

Bears coach Marc Trestman said. "We were the ones that had those, especially penalties that took us out of good positions."

Bell put the Lions ahead with a 1-yard scoring run on fourth down - leaping toward the goal line and extending the ball just far enough for a touchdown. Stafford's 6-yard touchdown pass to Johnson made it 24-14 with 24 seconds left in the half.

Stafford went 22 of 26 for 275 yards in the first half, and Johnson set a record as the fastest to 10,000 yards receiving, surpassing that milestone in the second quarter of his 115th game.

Bell's 1-yard run in the fourth was the only touchdown of the second half. □



## NBA Capsules

## Spurs beat Pacers 106-100 without Coach Popovich

The Associated Press

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Manu Ginobili had 28 points as the San Antonio Spurs won without coach Gregg Popovich, rallying for a 106-100 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Wednesday night.

Popovich missed the game after undergoing what the team is calling a minor medical procedure. Assistant Ettore Messina took over, becoming the first European-born coach to run an NBA team in the regular season.

Ginobili resembled the high-flying, energetic star that played for Bologna in 2001 under Messina before joining the Spurs, helping San Antonio's Big Three direct the team to victory without their fiery coach.

Tony Parker scored 21 points for San Antonio (10-4), and Kawhi Leonard had 21 points and 13 rebounds. CAVALIERS 113, WIZARDS 87

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — LeBron James scored 29 points and Kevin Love added 21 and Cleveland exacted a little revenge on Washington.

Five days after they were embarrassed in a 91-78 loss to Washington, the Cavs controlled this one from the start and got back to .500. James led the way, also collecting 10 rebounds and eight assists in 36 minutes. The four-time MVP, who called his team "fragile" during a recent four-

game losing streak, was energized from the start as he powered to the basket and imposed his will on the Wizards.

With Cleveland up by 19, James took a seat with 7:52 left, getting an early start on the Thanksgiving holiday. Kyrie Irving added 18 points for the Cavs.

Rasual Butler scored 23 and Paul Pierce had 15 for the Wizards, who only got six points from leading scorer John Wall.

NETS 99, 76ERS 91

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Alan Anderson scored 10 of his 12 points in the fourth quarter as Brooklyn extended Philadelphia's season-opening skid to 15 games — matching a franchise record.

Philadelphia rallied from a 20-point deficit in the first half to the lead early in the fourth quarter, but Anderson and Mirza Teletovic led the way for Brooklyn in the final period. Teletovic had six of his nine points in the fourth.

Joe Johnson had 21 points and Brook Lopez scored 19 for Brooklyn (6-8), which won for just the second time in eight games.

K.J. McDaniels and Tony Wroten scored 18 apiece for Philadelphia, which matched the 1972-73 team that started with 15 losses on its way to setting an NBA record for fewest wins in an 82-game schedule at 9-73. WARRIORS 111, MAGIC 96

**ORLANDO, Florida (AP)** — Stephen Curry had 28 points, including six 3-pointers as Golden State rolled to its seventh consecutive win.

Curry rested in the fourth quarter of Golden State's third consecutive win over the Magic. The Warriors led by as many as 27 in the second half.

Seven Warriors scored in double figures. Harrison Barnes had 16 points.

Orlando, which has been bothered by a rash of recent injuries, lost its third straight game. Tobias Harris led the Magic with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

MAVERICKS 109, KNICKS 102, OT

**DALLAS (AP)** — Tyson Chandler set season highs with 17 points and 25 rebounds against his former team, helping the Mavericks to an overtime victory against the Knicks, who were missing Carmelo Anthony.

J.R. Smith, starting with Anthony sidelined by back spasms, was 1 of 10 from the field entering the fourth quarter. But he made a tying jumper with 0.9 seconds left in regulation.

Dirk Nowitzki had a season-high 30 points for Dallas.

Chandler put Dallas ahead for good at 101-99 with a dunk in his first game against New York since an offseason trade that brought him back to Dallas after three seasons with the



San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard, left, drives around Indiana Pacers forward Damjan Rudez, of Croatia, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014, in San Antonio.

Associated Press

Knicks.

Jose Calderon, the biggest name going New York's way in the six-player deal, matched a career high with seven 3-pointers for all of his 21 points.

TRAIL BLAZERS 105, HORNETS 97

**CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP)** — Wesley Matthews scored a season-high 28 points as the Trail Blazers defeated the Hornets for their ninth consecutive victory.

Matthews was 10 of 15 from the field and 6 of 9 from 3-point range as Portland (12-3) improved to 7-0 against Eastern Conference teams.

Damian Lillard had 22 points, and Robin Lopez added 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Brian Roberts had a career-high 24 points for the Hornets, who have lost seven straight and nine of 10. Al Jefferson had 21 points and 14 rebounds for his fifth double-double.

**RAPTORS 126, HAWKS 115 ATLANTA (AP)** — DeMar DeRozan scored 27 points and Lou Williams added 22 as Toronto earned its sixth consecutive victory.

The Eastern Conference-

leading Raptors had their highest point total of the season. They have won 11 of 12 to match the best stretch in the franchise's 20-year history, also accomplished from March 22-April 14, 2002.

Jeff Teague had 24 points and 12 assists for Atlanta, and Al Horford scored 23 points.

Kyle Lowry had 14 points and 13 assists for Toronto, which is 4-1 on the road for the first time in team history. GRIZZLIES 99, LAKERS 93

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Marc Gasol had 19 points and 11 rebounds, Mike Conley added 19 points and Memphis earned its seventh victory in eight games.

Zach Randolph scored 16 points for the Grizzlies, who improved to 13-2 and kept pace with Toronto atop the overall NBA standings. But Western Conference-leading Memphis barely survived a strong effort from the 15th-place Lakers, who kept it close throughout a tense fourth quarter.

Coming off back-to-back 30-point games, Gasol scored 16 points in the second half, including 12 in the third quarter while the Grizzlies moved ahead.

## Australian Open

Continued from page 17

"Yesterday I got off to a bad start, and I didn't scramble well when I had to and it started to get away from me," Scott said. "Today a couple of good shots coming up 14 and I made an eagle and momentum is on your side."

Scott said the reason scoring has been difficult is the mostly contoured greens at The Australian.

"I think the greens were certainly testing us, getting to understand the slopes on the greens and especially around the edges," Scott said. "I've hit a lot of wedge shots that have been a little mis-struck and then spinning off the greens. I guess that's got to do with the pin positions as well. So getting it very close to the hole is not that easy. I think the greens have to be the defense because there is no rough."

Spieth had to call for a rules

official on the par-3 fourth hole when a marshal stood on his ball, but neglected to tell him when he got to the green.

Members of the gallery informed Spieth, and after he took a drop, the American fluffed his chip and missed his putt for par. On the way to the next hole, he flung his ball into a creek.

But his round ended well when Spieth birdied the 9th - his last - after hitting his approach to about two feet.



# Datsyuk scores twice; Detroit beats Philly 5-2

**The Associated Press**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Pavel Datsyuk scored twice in his return from an injury to lead the Detroit Red Wings to a 5-2 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night.

Datsyuk, who had missed Detroit's last four games with a sore groin, sent a slap shot over Steve Mason's shoulder in the second period to give the Red Wings their third goal. Mason was then pulled after making 11 saves.

Datsyuk knocked a rebound past Ray Emery late in the period to put the Red Wings up 4-1.

Jimmy Howard made 22 saves as Detroit won its second straight. Emery finished with nine saves.

**ISLANDERS 3, CAPITALS 2, OT**

UNIONDALE, New York (AP) — John Tavares scored a power-play goal late in overtime to lift New York over Washington.

The goal, the ninth of the season for Tavares, came at 4:36 and was assisted by

Ryan Strome and Johnny Boychuk.

The Islanders have set a franchise record by winning 16 of their first 22 games. They are 10-1-0 in their last 11 and 7-0 in extra time this season.

Jaroslav Halak made 25 saves for his eighth straight win. He has allowed only 10 goals in those eight wins.

Anders Lee and Travis Hamonic scored first-period goals for the Islanders. Alex Ovechkin scored two power-play goals for the Capitals in his 700th NHL game.

**BLACKHAWKS 3, AVALANCHE 2**

DENVER (AP) — Bryan Bickell scored late in the third period as Chicago overcame strong goaltending from Calvin Pickard to beat Colorado.

Corey Crawford made 27 saves, and Jonathan Toews and Andrew Shaw also scored for the Blackhawks. Patrick Kane had three assists.

Pickard, making his first start after winning two games



**New York Rangers defenseman Kevin Klein (8) flies over Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist (30), of Sweden, after stopping Tampa Bay Lightning center Tyler Johnson on a breakaway during the second period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014, in Tampa, Fla.**

**Associated Press**

in relief of Reto Berra, kept Colorado in the game with a career-high 42 saves. Ryan O'Reilly and Max Talbot scored for the Avalanche.

**JETS 2, SABRES 1**

BUFFALO, New York (AP) — Bryan Little and Michael Frolik scored to lead Winnipeg to its second road win in two nights.

Chris Stewart had the goal for Buffalo, which had won a season-best three straight.

Ondrej Pavelec stopped 19 shots for the Jets. Jhonas Enroth made 24 saves for the Sabres.

**KINGS 4, WILD 0**

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) — Dustin Brown's goal and assist helped spark a four-goal first period, and Martin Jones earned his fifth career shutout.

Mike Richards, Tyler Tofoli and Justin Williams also scored for the Kings, who won on the road for just the second time this season.

Starting his second straight game and given a comfortable lead after the first, Jones stopped 28 shots for his first shutout since April 10, 2014.

Darcy Kuemper gave up all four first-period goals on 10 shots before being replaced by Niklas Backstrom to start the second.

The blowout loss was Min-

nesota's second defeat at home and its most lopsided of the season.

**LIGHTNING 4, RANGERS 3**

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — Ryan Callahan scored twice against his former team for the second time in 10 days to lead Tampa Bay over New York.

Former Lightning captain Martin St. Louis played in Tampa for the first time since requesting a trade and being dealt to the Rangers for Callahan last March in a rare swap of captains.

Tampa Bay went ahead 3-2 when Steven Stamkos skated behind the net and got his second assist of the game setting up Callahan, who beat Henrik Lundqvist from in close at 10:17 of the second.

**PENGUINS 4, MAPLE LEAFS 3**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Blake Comeau completed his second career hat trick with a slap shot past Jonathan Bernier 2:07 into overtime to lift the Penguins.

Comeau settled a pass from Kris Letang and fired a shot from the point for his third goal of the night and eighth of the season.

Evgeni Malkin added a goal and two assists, and Sidney Crosby had two assists to become the third player in Penguins history to reach 800 points.

Marc-Andre Fleury, wearing gold pads for the first time in seven years, stopped 24 shots for his 301st win.

Leo Komarov scored twice for the Maple Leafs, and Tyler Bozak got his ninth of the season. Bernier made 22 saves.

**PANTHERS 1, HURRICANES 0**

SUNRISE, Florida (AP) — Nick Bjugstad scored 21 seconds into the game as Florida edged Carolina despite an injury to Roberto Luongo.

The veteran goalie made 11 saves before leaving with 9:38 left in the second period with an upper-body injury.

Luongo was replaced by Al Montoya, who stopped 22 shots in his sixth appearance of the season.

The Panthers won for the first time in three games and posted their first shutout since a 1-0 win at Buffalo on Oct. 17.

The Hurricanes lost for the sixth time in seven games and have an NHL-worst 2-9-2 road record.

Cam Ward made 27 saves for Carolina.

**FLAMES 2, SHARKS 0**

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Karri Ramo made 32 saves for his third career shutout and Jiri Hudler scored both goals to lead the Flames over San Jose. □



**U.S. Ted Ligety during practice at the Levi skiing hill in Kittila, Finland, on Friday, Nov. 14, 2014. Levi hosts the women's and men's FIS Slalom World Cup during the upcoming weekend.**

**Associated Press**

## Ted Ligety will skip events in Lake Louise

**The Associated Press**

**DENVER (AP)** — Olympic champion Ted Ligety will skip the World Cup races in Lake Louise,

Alberta, this weekend with his left wrist still on the mend.

The 30-year-old Ligety had surgery on his wrist after a training mishap in Vail, Colorado, last weekend.

The U.S. Ski Team remains hopeful that Ligety can return to competition in early

December when the circuit switches to Beaver Creek, Colorado. The World Cup stop at Birds of Prey includes downhill, super-G and giant slalom races.

U.S. men's coach Sasha Rearick said that Ligety is "making good decisions to get himself ready for Beaver Creek. We're going to have high quality training for him to get up to speed so he can prep for and focus on Birds of Prey." □



# Thanksgiving travel woes? There's an app for that

BY JUSTIN PRITCHARD  
Associated Press

Traveling by plane, train or automobile can be a headache. Mixing in Thanksgiving can make it a throbbing migraine. Technology provides some pain relief in the form of apps to let you know which roads are clogged, what gate your flight leaves from and whether trains are running on time.

The American Automobile Association forecasts that the Wednesday through Sunday period will see more than 46 million Americans travel at least 50 miles from home - the most Thanksgiving road warriors since 2007. About nine in 10 are expected to drive - or be driven - with about 3.6 million flying.

Here are some ways to make the journey a bit less taxing.

## PLANES

FlightAware tracks not only your flight's status but also any delays or cancellations, even gate changes. Set it up for a specific trip and it will send alerts so you don't

have to keep checking for changes.

Seats matter, especially if you're traveling with kids. The ExpertFlyer app has a feature called "seat

from airport departure boards at over 3,000 airports worldwide. If you're picking up at the airport, it's one way to find out whether the flight will

While Amtrak has an app that lets you make or change reservations and check the status of your train, local and regional public transit doesn't

research at the American Public Transportation Association. As for using your phone to buy and manage tickets - that's not as common an option, but some agencies offer it.

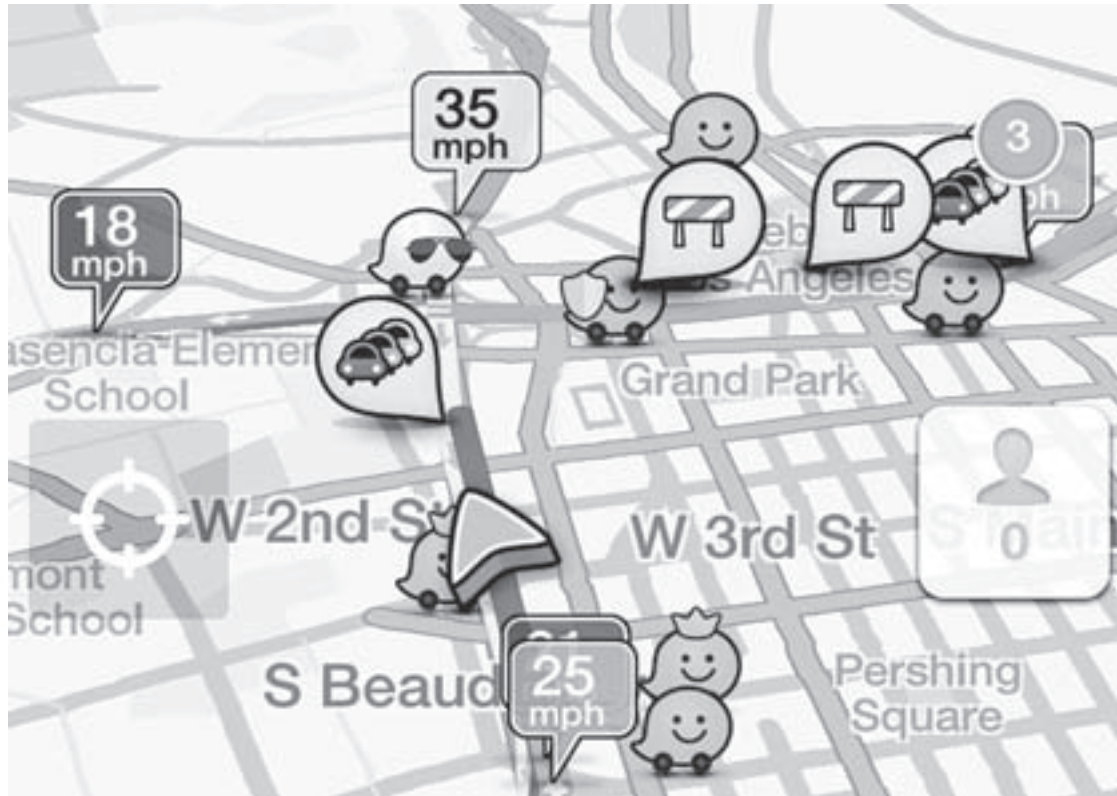
## AUTOMOBILES

Traffic apps are a familiar friend for many commuters. Some, such as Sigalert, offer color-coded highway maps - red for "jammed up," yellow for "slow," green for "full speed ahead." Sometimes the data that inform the maps are just outdated enough that they can lead a driver onto a freeway that may have been traffic-free five minutes ago, but now has a building bottleneck.

The popular app Waze tries to solve that problem by asking drivers to report traffic and other problems, which the app then shares with other users.

## AND JUST IN CASE

Should everything go sideways, and you're suddenly stranded, Priceline and Hotel Tonight can help you find a room nearby. □



alert," which informs you when a seat you want to snag becomes available.

If you have the pleasure of a connecting flight, consider FlightBoard. Every five minutes, it updates with the latest

land on time.

Or, if you want to keep it simple, get the app of the airline you're flying. That will typically let you do things such as get a boarding pass or - gulp - rebook your flight.

## TRAINS

have the same range of resources as air travel.

At least 70 percent of larger transit agencies have apps that offer real-time travel information, according to Darnell Grisby, director of policy development and

# EU piling pressure on Google to change ways

RAF CASERT  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — European Union institutions are piling pressure on Google to change the way it operates its business and applies EU rules.

The European parliament on Thursday approved a non-binding resolution that calls for the unbundling of search engines from other services that internet companies offer, a practice that could in theory lead to the break-up of giant internet companies like Google.

The resolution is a largely symbolic protest vote without immediate impact. But it was approved with a large majority — 384 votes

to 174, with 56 abstentions — showing widespread political backing.

EU Digital Economy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger underscored the resolution was "an important expression of opinion" but he added the EU was far from tearing digital multinationals apart.

"I don't think, at the end of the day, that the breaking up as such is what we can expect," Oettinger said. "Rather we are talking about the consistent and correct implementation of EU legislation to ensure that the interests" of EU businesses and consumers are maintained.

EU antitrust authorities are currently investigating

Google to see whether it is abusing its position following allegations it is biased in linking search results to its own services.

Competitors in Europe, where Google has an Internet search market share of about 90 percent, have complained about the way the company gives preference to its own Google-branded services at the top of search result pages, especially when consumers are likely to be searching for something to buy.

The EU Commission made it clear that the resolution will not have an impact on the investigation into Google. On Wednesday, an EU data protection group ad-



**President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker arrives to deliver his statement on growth, jobs and investment package for Europe, Wednesday Nov 26, 2014 at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France. Associated Press**

vised that "the right to be forgotten" rule — which requires Google to delete upon request information that unfairly tarnishes an individual's reputation — should be expanded to the general .com domains. The purge of search results currently applies to

Google's local search pages covering the EU's 28 member nations and four other European countries, encompassing more than 500 million people. Those who switch to the firm's American domain, Google.com, can find unaltered search results. □



## World Markets:

# Oil prices tank as OPEC leaves output unchanged

**PAN PYLAS**

**AP Business Writer**

**LONDON (AP)** — Oil companies saw their shares take a beating Thursday as crude prices slid to their lowest in over four years in the wake of OPEC's decision to maintain production levels even though prices have fallen sharply in recent weeks.

With U.S. markets closed for Thanksgiving, investors around the world were taking their cue from developments in Vienna, Austria,

where the OPEC oil cartel was meeting.

The oil ministers opted to keep their production target at 30 million barrels a day, despite an oversupply of crude and plunging prices. Saudi Arabia, the 12-member cartel's largest producer, had indicated before the meeting that it favors the status-quo. The decision means markets will remain amply supplied for a while to come.

"Historically, when it comes to altering supply levels, it

has fallen on the Saudi's shoulders to make the changes, and without their leadership few OPEC members were likely to go it alone," said Alastair McCaig, market analyst at IG. Following the decision, the price of benchmark New York crude was down 6.6 percent at \$68.80 a barrel while the international benchmark — Brent — slumped 6.5 percent at \$72.72. Both are at their lowest levels in over four years.

Unsurprisingly, the stocks of major oil producers were in the firing line as their profits are hugely dependent on the price of oil they extract. Royal Dutch Shell, for example, fell 4.3 percent while Total SA dropped 4.1 percent.

Oil prices have taken a battering this year for a variety of reasons including the return of sustained supplies from countries like Iraq and Libya, the increase in shale gas production, particularly in the U.S., as well

as signs of a slowdown in some of the world's leading economies, notably China and Europe.

Analysts think some OPEC countries — Saudi Arabia in particular — don't mind oil prices falling too far as they could make it uneconomical for shale gas producers. That in the long-run could boost OPEC's market share.

With Wall Street closed, there were few other drivers for stock markets in Europe and Asia. □

## Weak consumer, business demand may slow US growth

**C. S. RUGABER**

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER**

**AP Economics**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. consumers and businesses spent cautiously last month, a sign that strong growth during the spring and summer may decelerate in the final three months of the year.

The figures released this week were a mild disappointment after data the previous day showed the economy had expanded at the fastest pace in over a decade in the second and third quarters.

"The economy is poised to slow again as we move into the fourth quarter, after a stellar catch-up from last year's horrific winter weather," Diane Swonk, an economist at Mesirow Financial, said in a note to clients.

Consumers opened their wallets a bit in October, boosting their spending by a lukewarm 0.2 percent. That was only slightly better than September's flat reading.

Yet incomes also rose just 0.2 percent, matching September's increase. Because hiring has been healthy this year, many economists have been expecting a stronger pickup in income. Limited increases in pay could restrain future spending by consumers, which accounts for 70 percent of the U.S. economy.

Businesses also cut back on orders for industrial machinery, computers and

other equipment, a sign that business investment spending may slow in the October-December quarter. Factories received fewer orders for the second straight month in a key category that tracks business investment plans.

Paul Ashworth, an econo-

percent growth. The two quarters represent the best six-month pace since 2003. Other data on Wednesday painted a mixed picture of the U.S. economy, adding to the year-end uncertainty.

In a positive sign, a measure of consumer senti-

That would be the biggest gain in three years.

Still, two additional reports Wednesday showed that housing, traditionally a key driver of the economy after recessions, remains sluggish. New home sales ticked up slightly to a seasonally adjusted annual

ing months. Existing home sales rose last month to an annual pace of 5.26 million, their fastest this year. But that's still below the 5.5 million consistent with a healthy housing market.

Inflation remains low, which could also help boost spending over the holidays. A price gauge included in the spending report rose by just 1.4 percent over the past 12 months, well below the Federal Reserve's 2 percent inflation target. Many economists are still optimistic that greater hiring, as well as fewer government spending cuts and tax increases, will boost growth to about 3 percent in 2015. That would be the first full year to record 3 percent growth since 2005.

The job market has made steady progress this year. Employers have added an average of 229,000 jobs a month through October. That would make hiring in 2014 the strongest that the U.S. has seen in 15 years. The unemployment rate has fallen to 5.8 percent, a six-year low, from 7.2 percent just one year ago.

Yet the number of people seeking unemployment benefits jumped last week to the highest level in nearly 3 months, a sign that layoffs have risen. The increase likely reflects seasonal job cuts at businesses affected by cold weather, such as construction firms. Most economists said the increase isn't a cause for concern. □



**Westmont Borough Parks & Public Works crew member Tom Holbay uses a John Deere tractor to remove the fallen elm leaves from the median of Luzerne Street in Johnstown, Pa., while Jim Carbaug trails behind to clean up the rest. U.S. consumers and businesses spent cautiously last month, a sign that strong growth during the spring and summer may decelerate in the final three months of the year.**  
(AP Photo/The Tribune-Democrat, Thomas Slusser)

mist at Capital Economics, said he now expects the economy will expand at a 2.5 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter, down from an earlier forecast of 3 percent. Macroeconomic Advisers, a forecasting firm, projects growth of just 2 percent.

While those figures would represent modest progress, they are much lower than the third quarter's 3.9 percent expansion and the second quarter's 4.6

ment by the University of Michigan rose to a seven-year high, suggesting consumers could ramp up their spending during the holiday shopping season.

With a steadily improving job market and falling gas prices, economists say American households are ready to shed any lingering caution. The National Retail Federation, a trade group, is forecasting that holiday sales will rise 4.1 percent from last year.

rate of 458,000 in October. But that figure is up only 1.8 percent from 12 months ago.

Sharp price increases have likely held back sales: the price of a typical new home has soared 16.5 percent in the past year to \$305,000.

Separately, the number of signed contracts to buy homes fell slightly in October, which indicates that sales of existing homes may decline in the com-



## ECB's Draghi Monetary union is 'incomplete'

DAVID McHUGH  
M. HUUHTANEN

Associated Press

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) —

European Central Bank head Mario Draghi says the euro currency union remains "incomplete" and needs to be strengthened with better oversight of member countries' economic policies to avoid future crises.

Draghi said in the text of a speech Thursday in Helsinki that "for all its resilience, our union is still incomplete."

He said the 18 member countries have agreed not to bail each other out through fiscal transfers — the way richer and poorer states do in the United States — so they need to find other ways of keeping problems in one member country from affecting them all.

He called for "joint sovereignty" over economic policies and urged tougher use of existing tools such as the annual review of national budgets by the European Union's executive commission as a way to keep bad economic policymaking from triggering economic trouble in individual countries.

The eurozone is struggling to emerge from a crisis that began in 2009-10 over troubles with government debt in smaller countries such as Greece, Ireland and Portugal and quickly led to fears the currency union might break up. Markets are calmer now and those breakup fears have receded. But the eurozone as a whole is still mired in low growth and high unemployment. Draghi said it isn't realistic to expect euro member countries to send each other money to even out imbalances. He noted that such fiscal transfers help keep regional recessions from becoming national crises in the United States, where richer states persistently send tax dollars to poorer ones.

"Would it be imaginable that we have a monetary union based on permanent debtors and permanent creditors, forever?" he asked the audience at the University of Helsinki. □

## Your Money:

# Parents, the kids are fine, spend their inheritance

RON LIEBER

© 2014 New York Times

Once people hit retirement, they do not know how long they will live or how long their money will last. Still, most retirees with children cling to an intention to leave something behind, even though many of those offspring have no expectation of receiving an inheritance.

This parental instinct might seem loving and generous, but there is another way to look at it. All of this devotion to the next generation may also be the height of foolishness.

After a few decades of spending well into the six figures to rear and educate each child (and increasingly, years more backstopping young adults who are not quite financially independent), the parents probably ought to cease feeling this sense of obligation. Far better to spend their retirement money in the present, on making meaningful memories with family members or on top-notch care that can help make aging more comfortable and graceful — in their own home if possible.

So how can we middle-aged children convince our parents that they are officially off the hook?

First, consider the state of the generational disconnect. In an article that the journal *The Gerontologist* published last year, Kyungmin Kim and four colleagues took the unusual step of using polling data from both older Americans and their adult children about whether they expected to leave or receive an inheritance.

Kim, a postdoctoral fellow at the Population Research Center at the University of Texas, reported these results. Among the parents, ages 59-96, 86.2 percent expected to leave a bequest. But just 44.6 percent of the children, ages 40-60, thought they would get one. As for the most agonizing possible mismatch, where parents had no intention of leaving money behind but their children were expecting some, just

2.4 percent of the parent-child pairs had that disconnect.

Economists who study the motivation for inheritance intentions tend to investigate two general areas. The first involves the moral obligation that parents feel toward their offspring, no matter how much support they may have given to them already. A subset

tend to give them one.

The message here would seem to be that aging parents are generous to a fault, if a bit manipulative on occasion. Adult children, meanwhile, accept their obligations to care for their parents with little expectation of receiving anything in return, though some who remain on the dole well into adulthood

allow people 62 and older to tap some of the equity in their homes without having to make any loan payments until they die or move out, are roughly half as popular as they were before the housing crisis. Plenty of bad actors persuaded elderly homeowners to take lump sum loan distributions and plow them into inappropriate



**Once people hit retirement, they do not know how long they will live or how long their money will last. Still, the vast majority of retirees with children cling to an intention to leave something behind, even though many of those offspring have no expectation of receiving an inheritance.**

(Robert Neubecker for The New York Times)

of adult children seem to understand this innately. In Kim's study, the adult children who were getting money from their aging parents while they were still alive had a higher expectation than other adult children of getting more once their parents were dead. Entitlement, anyone?

The other inheritance theory relates to exchanges. The assumption here is that parents wish to reward children who help them while they are still alive with an inheritance after they've died. They may even subtly (or not so subtly) dangle the prospect of a bequest in front of the children while they are still living to encourage the desired behavior or assistance. What Kim and her colleagues found, however, was that the adult children who were providing more support were less likely to expect an inheritance, even though their parents were indeed more likely to in-

expect their parents to provide for them from the grave too.

The study's yes-no questions, however, are relatively limiting. Many parents may be hoping to leave just a token amount, after all. Adult children might lie about their expectations to please the researchers, too. And besides, even if you expect nothing it doesn't mean that you don't badly want that very thing.

For more insight on this, I turned to an academic who has recently gotten into the business of trying to get older Americans to tap into their home equity during their retirement years. Christopher Mayer is an economist at Columbia Business School with expertise in housing finance and policy. But he's also the chief executive at a new reverse mortgage company called Longbridge Financial.

Reverse mortgages, which

annuities or other financial products. As a result, protective adult children often come with their parents to discuss reverse mortgages with the person pitching the loan.

But who exactly are they protecting? "It's hard to have more than three or four conversations with a family before the inheritance topic comes up," Mayer said of the children who try to talk their parents out of tapping their home equity. "There are times when they say, 'Mom and Dad, that could be useful money for me.'"

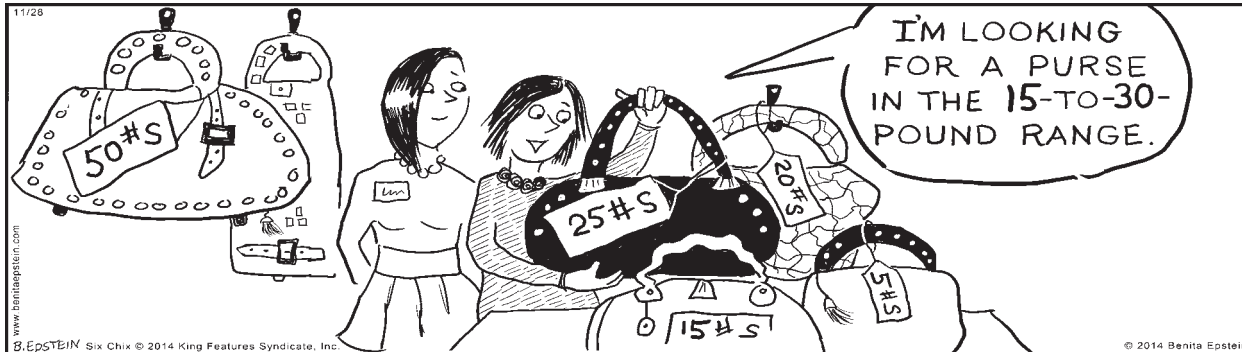
Hoarding home equity certainly seems prudent. After all, the money tied up in a home can be awfully useful for people who suddenly need \$200 a day for in-home care or to enter a nursing facility. Having that source of capital at hand means they won't be a financial burden to their children or have to take their chances with Medicaid. □



## Mutts



## 6 Chix



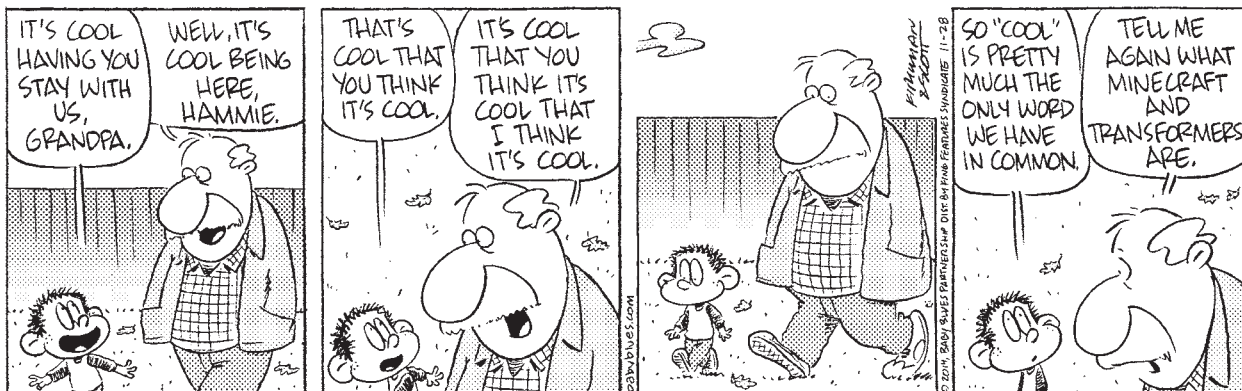
## Blondie



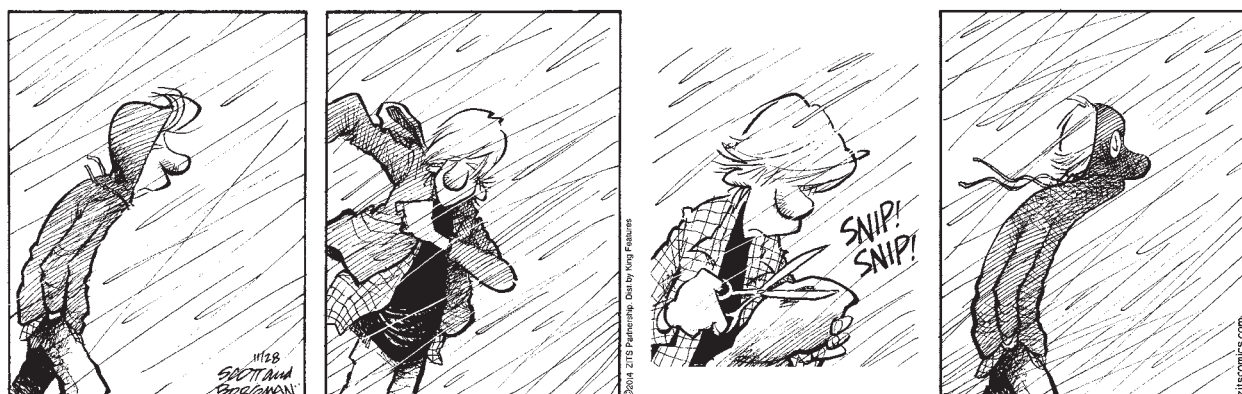
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		5		9		8		
	1		5		6		7	
		6	7		5	2		
	2						3	
		4	3		9	7		
	5		1		3		6	
		8		6		9		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

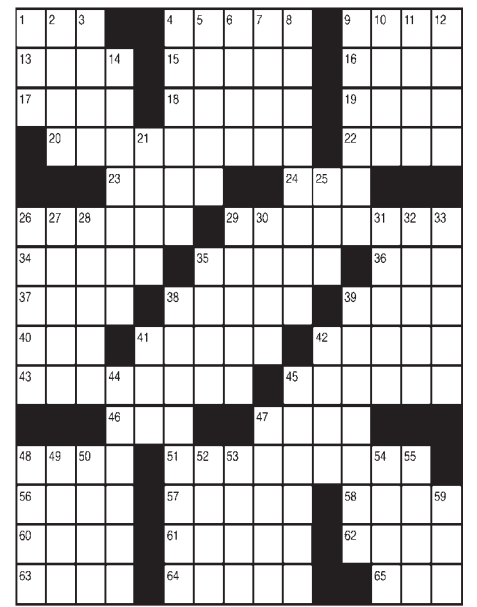
1	3	5	2	8	4	9	6	7
2	7	4	5	6	9	3	1	8
9	6	8	3	7	1	2	5	4
8	4	7	1	5	2	6	3	9
3	1	2	9	4	6	8	7	5
6	5	9	8	3	7	4	2	1
5	9	3	7	2	8	1	4	6
4	2	1	6	9	5	7	8	3
7	8	6	4	1	3	5	9	2

## ACROSS

- That fellow
- ...to \_\_, dust to dust...
- Snatch
- "It is what "
- Thick-skinned beast
- Hit the ceiling
- Jab
- Like a garden after the rain
- King beaters
- In \_\_; prepared to be used
- Sleeveless top
- Takes to court
- Lincoln, to friends
- Come \_\_; find
- Arduous; backbreaking
- Candid
- Cost
- Female deer
- Boatman's needs
- Window covering
- Lowly laborer
- Half and half
- Posh hotel accommodation
- Paper signed by a tenant
- Awful
- President, king, prime minister, etc.
- Upper limb
- Soccer great
- Gator's cousin
- Kooky
- Donut's center
- Reigned
- Resound
- Drug addict
- Burial place
- Sweetheart
- Disarray
- Parent or grandparent
- Mogram for Mamie's man
- "Use \_\_ lose it"
- Ditka or Tyson
- Fighting forces
- Gives the cold shoulder to
- Animal pelt
- Split \_\_; hair problem
- Teriyaki marinade
- Roadway surface, often
- Marathon
- Grows old
- Finest
- Summer & fall
- Sundown
- Buzzing insect
- Underway
- Wading bird
- More unusual
- Shred cheese
- Hitchhiker's hope
- Perfect
- Lasso loop
- Autry & Wilder
- Donahue or Mickelson
- Put under water
- \_\_ out; dwindled
- Gentleman
- Uplifting tune
- Indy 500 cars
- Easy to cut, as a steak
- Irritate
- Buddy
- Got up
- Bullfight cheers
- Ringlet of hair
- \_\_ in; wearing
- \_\_ tea
- African nation
- Miner's find

## DOWN

- \_\_-hop; rap music



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/28/14

## Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SNUB	SCARF	OPTS
LOPE	WADER	PAUL
ITOR	INDIA	PINE
PERSIST	GUARDED	
EDS	ANDRE	
SPIRO	BUS	OSCAR
HANK	HAD	ASSISI
INN	TERRACE	GIN
NIECES	EVE	BAAS
SCRAM	EYE	VERNE
	SPANS	LEA
SHUTOUT	HATCHET	
ROLL	DIVER	HIRE
ANNE	ICING	EGGS
SEAS	TEASE	SHOT

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11/28/14



## Amsterdam warns of dangerous drugs after three tourist deaths

**MIKE CORDER**  
**Associated Press**

**AMSTERDAM (AP)** — Health authorities in Amsterdam are warning of dangerous drugs being sold to tourists after three British men died in the past month after snorting heroin they may have believed was cocaine.

A large sign outside the Dutch capital's Central Station warned Thursday, "Extremely dangerous cocaine is sold to tourists" in the area. Similar signs were set up at other popular tourist haunts in the historic city.

The warning campaign was started after two British men, aged 20 and 21, were found dead in a hotel room in the city on Tuesday. Police say they likely died after snorting "white

heroin" they probably bought believing it was cocaine.

Amsterdam police spokesman Rob van der Veen said the same drug is suspected in another British tourist's death last month. A further 14 people have become sick after taking the drug, Van der Veen added.

He said it is not yet clear why heroin is apparently being sold as cocaine. A team of police is investigating the case and trying to track down the dealer involved. Tourists flock to Amsterdam to smoke marijuana at the city's famed "coffee shops," but liberal Dutch drug policies that allow pot smoking do not extend to hard drugs like cocaine and heroin, which remain illegal. □

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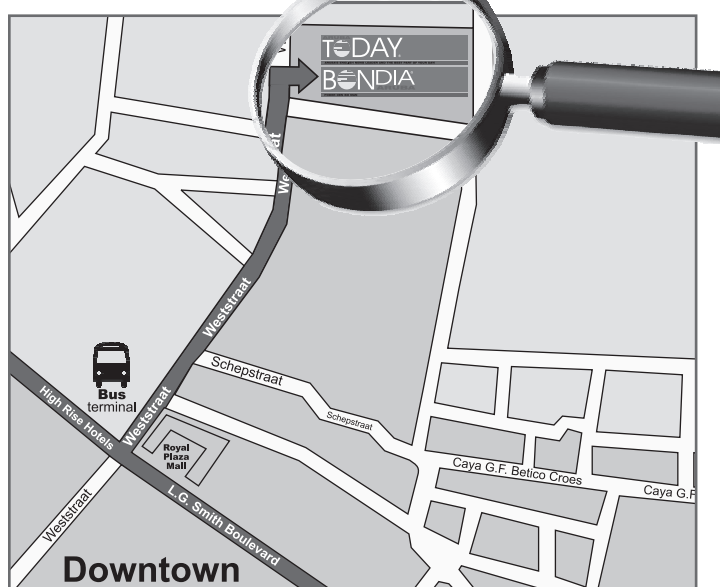
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## Colorado mastodon bones show ancient warmer Earth

By **DAN ELLIOTT**  
**Associated Press**

**DENVER (AP)** — A trove of ancient bones from gigantic animals discovered in the Colorado mountains is providing scientists with a fascinating look at what happened about 120,000 years ago when the Earth got as warm as it is today. Evidence left behind by mastodons, mammoths, giant sloths and huge bison — along with insects, plants, pollen and other animals — offers a glimpse at how ancient animal adapted to climate change.

Among their findings: The warmer weather allowed forests to reach about 2,500 feet farther up the mountainside than today's tree line, which is about 11,500 feet above sea level at the Snowmass site. Forests also may have been denser, and smaller trees and grasslands might have been more widespread amid drier conditions.

A team of 47 scientists has been studying material unearthed four years ago near Snowmass, a town just outside Aspen, when a bulldozer was enlarging



In this Nov. 25, 2014 photo, paleontology student Hillary McLean pieces back together the tusk of an ancient mastodon, part of an extensive discovery unearthed from Snowmass, Colo., inside a workroom at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

a reservoir. The researchers published their first big batch of data in the journal *Quaternary Research* in November.

"The site is spectacular because it has a single continuous pile of sediment from the most recent interglacial period," about 120,000 years ago, when conditions

were similar to the present, said Ian Miller, chairman of the Earth Sciences Department at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. He is co-director of the museum's Snowmastodon Project, which is sifting through the material.

"It's a beautiful record of the last time it was as warm

or warmer than it is today," he said.

The information gives scientists solid data to check their climate models against. It also means that figuring out the impacts of human-produced greenhouse gases combined with natural changes might be more complicated than previ-

ously thought. "The point is ... if we haven't seen all the natural variability in the system and we are causing warming, where are we going?" Miller said.

The Colorado site can point to clues about how life adapts to climate change — but it doesn't answer the question, according to a climate scientist not working on the Snowmass site.

"It shows an example of a world that's that warm and shows us some manifest examples of how animals react to that," said Ted Scambos, lead scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado.

"What we're headed for is kind of a different situation where we're turning the knob way up on climate in a very short period of time."

The reservoir where the bones were found was originally a natural lake and sits on a ridge about 9,000 feet above sea level. The sediment and bones provided a record of about 85,000 years, from 140,000 years ago to 55,000 years ago. □

## Ebola vaccine seems safe in first-stage testing

**AP Medical Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — An experimental Ebola vaccine appears safe and triggered signs of immune protection in the first 20 volunteers to test it, U.S. researchers reported Wednesday. The vaccine is designed to spur the immune system's production of anti-Ebola antibodies, and people developed them within four weeks of getting the shots at the National Institutes of Health. Half of the

test group received a higher-dose shot, and those people produced more antibodies, said the study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Some people also developed a different set of virus-fighting immune cells, named T cells, the study found. That may be important in fending off Ebola, as prior research found that monkeys protected by the vaccine also had that combination response.

Stimulating both types of immune response is "a promising factor," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, whose employees led the work. The researchers reported no serious side effects. But two people who received the higher-dose vaccine briefly spiked fevers, one above 103 degrees Fahrenheit (39 Celsius), which disappeared within a day. □



This handout file photo taken Sept. 2, 2014, provided by National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) shows a 39-year-old woman, the first participant enrolled in VRC 207, receiving a dose of the investigational NIAID/GSK Ebola vaccine at the National Institute of Health (NIH) Clinical Center in Bethesda, Md.

**Associated Press**





In this Sunday, April 6, 2014, file photo, singer Scott Stapp, of the band Creed, performs solo in concert at Soundstage, in Baltimore. Associated Press

## Creed frontman Scott Stapp says he's broke

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Creed frontman Scott Stapp says he's broke. The 41-year-old lead singer of the Grammy-winning band said in a rambling 15-minute-long video posted on his Facebook page Wednesday that he's living in a hotel. "Right now, I'm living in a Holiday Inn, by the grace of God, because there's been a couple of weeks where I had to live in my truck," he said in the video. "I had no money, not even for gas or food." Stapp said money has been stolen from his bank account and royalty payments have not been paid to him. "Eight weeks ago, I

began an audit of not only my record company, but my personal finances," he said. "During the course of that audit, a lot of things were uncovered. A lot of money was stolen from me, or royalties not paid, and that's when all hell began to break loose." Stapp denied he's taking drugs or alcohol and said he is "as sober as can be." Creed last toured together in 2012. The band was one of the most successful rock acts of the 1990s, selling more than 40 million albums. Creed won the Grammy for best rock song for "With Arms Wide Open" in 2001. □

## Singer John Mayer among 'Late Late Show' subs

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Singer John Mayer, filmmaker Judd Apatow and comic Drew Carey will be among the guest hosts that will fill in on CBS's "The Late Late Show" before new host James Corden takes over in March. The network on Wednesday announced its plans for the 12:37 a.m. (0537 GMT) time slot for the winter months after current host Craig Ferguson leaves. The

Scottish comedian's last show will be Dec. 19. Carey will host the first week of January and the last week before Corden starts. In between, actors Will Arnett, Wayne Brady, Jim Gaffigan, Billy Gardell, Sean Hayes, Thomas Lennon and Kunal Nayyar will take turns as host. CBS will also air special late-night editions of its daytime chat show, "The Talk," for a week in January. □

# Children's' music star Laurie Berkner new plan

**MARK KENNEDY**  
**AP Entertainment Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — This fall, Laurie Berkner has been on a mission that likely will make children and parents happy: making more Laurie Berkners.

The singer-songwriter, who Time magazine dubbed "the queen of children's music," has been training teachers to use her songs in a new music program for kids up to 4 years old.

The classes, called "The Music in Me," are like having a Berkner in the room. "I'm trying to bottle it and pass it on to someone else," the musician and educator said.

While still in its infancy — a pilot program is being used at four Manhattan locations — Berkner hopes it can one day go national, spreading her songs and philosophy.

She got the idea after so many people told her they were happily using her songs like "Victor Vita" and "Rocketship Run" in classrooms, libraries and day cares. That got Berkner curious: "If everyone's using them, does anyone actually use them the way I was hoping they would be used? Maybe I should start teaching some people how to do that," she said.

The education program comes at a time of flowering for all things Berkner: Her new musical "The Amazing Adventures of Harvey and the Princess" is playing at New York City Children's Theater, she has two CDs — one of lullabies and a second hits compilation — and she's got the animated musical preschool series "Sing It,



In this April 22, 2013 file photo, performer Laurie Berkner of Sprout's "Sing it, Laurie!" arrives at the 2013 NBCUniversal Summer Press Day in Pasadena, Calif. Associated Press

Laurie!" on Sprout.

But the training program is the thing closest to her heart as she tries to put into words all that she's learned at pre-schools, YMCAs and private music classes. Her attempt to make a curriculum from songs is part of a trend that includes Dan Zanes and Music Together.

Since starting in the mid-1990s, Berkner has written about 140 songs and has been experimenting with lesson plans to highlight them. Her program offers suggestions on when and how to introduce them, and in what sequence, always mixing slow songs and activity tunes up to keep things interesting.

"If you don't follow that natural heartbeat-walking-talking human rhythm, then you're not giving a 3-year-old what they need to be doing at that moment," she said. "They'll just do something else."

Jaclyn Dima, a music and movement teacher who has been following Berkner's

program, marvels at the way the lyrics and melody stick with kids. "The words will tell you what to do. The music will tell you what to do," she said. "It just comes naturally."

That natural skill was hard-won: Berkner was in a rock band that played downtown and an all-female cover band when she applied to be a music teacher at Rockefeller University's Child and Family Center.

"I didn't know what to do with them," she said. Berkner learned a lot of folk songs, but "Old MacDonald" just wasn't cutting it.

"They would run around the room. I couldn't control them," she said.

So she asked the kids what they liked, got them to stand up, march around, roar and the song "We Are The Dinosaurs," her first real children's song, was born. Her philosophy hasn't changed much since then. "A lot of it is about following them, but also using the music to let them follow it," she said. □

## Original Alice manuscript to travel to U.S. museums

**LONDON (AP)** — Lewis Carroll's original handwritten, illustrated manuscript for "Alice in Wonderland" will travel to the U.S. to mark its 150th anniversary.

The British Library said Thursday it will loan the book — presented by the author to Alice Liddell, who inspired

it — to New York's Morgan Library and Museum and the Rosenbach Museum of the Free Library of Philadelphia next year.

The work, which bears its original title of "Alice's Adventures Under Ground," was bought by an American dealer in 1928 and re-

turned to Britain in 1948.

The British Library also will display the book in late 2015 as part of an exhibition marking 150 years since its 1865 publication.

The library also plans a major exhibition next year marking the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. □



## Frida Kahlo's garden to be reimagined in New York

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Mexican artist Frida Kahlo's native garden and studio will be reimagined at the New York Botanical Garden in the spring. The garden will use flowers and plants native to Mexico in the exhibition "Frida Kahlo: Art, Garden, Life," which will open May 16 and run through Nov. 1. The artist's first solo exhibition in New York City in more than 25 years will reflect the bright colors and textures of Kahlo's portraits and still lifes. It will feature about a dozen original paintings and drawings highlighting her use of botanical imagery. Photos of Kahlo and her husband, muralist Diego Rivera, also will

be shown. The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory will be transformed into Kahlo's Blue House (Casa Azul) studio and garden outside Mexico City. It was decorated in traditional Mexican folk-art objects, Colonial-era art, native plants and religious ex-voto paintings that depict a tragedy or someone with a grave illness or injury. Among the features at the botanical garden will be a lava rock path lined with flowers. There also will be a scale version of a pyramid at Casa Azul that was created to display pre-Columbian art collected by her husband, muralist Diego Rivera. It will be filled with traditional Mexican terra

cotta pots. The exhibition also will have a dozen of her original paintings and drawings on view at the nearby LuEsther T. Mertz Library's art gallery. The exhibition "will provide an in-depth look at Kahlo's work and artistic environment and also celebrate the energy and sophistication of Mexican culture," said Gregory Long, president and CEO of the garden. It will be curated by art historian and Mexican art specialist Adriana Zavala. The garden did a similar recreation in 2012 of Claude Monet's flower and water gardens and home at Giverny in the north of France. □



This undated photo provided by the New York Botanical Garden, a 1940 painting entitled "Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird," by Frida Kahlo is shown.

Associated Press

## Queen of crime writing P.D. James dies aged 94

**JILL LAWLESS**

**Associated press**

**LONDON (AP)** — P.D. James took the classic British detective story into tough modern terrain, complete with troubled relationships and brutal violence, and never accepted that crime writing was second-class literature.

James, who has died aged 94, is best known as the creator of sensitive Scotland Yard sleuth Adam Dalgliesh. But her wickedly acute imagination ranged widely, inserting a murder into the mannered world of Jane Austen in "Death Comes to Pemberley" and creating a bleak dystopian future in "The Children of Men."

James told the Associated Press in 2006 that she was drawn to mystery novels because they "tell us more ... about the social mores about the time in which they were written than the more prestigious literature."

Publisher Faber and Faber said James died peacefully on Thursday at her home in Oxford, southern England.

Faber, James' publisher for

more than 50 years, said in a statement that she had been "so very remarkable in every aspect of her life, an inspiration and great friend to us all."

James' books sold millions of copies around the world, and most were just



This is a Nov. 27, 2005 file photo of author P.D. James as she discusses her latest novel, "The Lighthouse," another mystery featuring Scotland Yard detective Adam Dalgliesh, during an interview in New York.

Associated Press

as popular when adapted for television.

Because of the quality and careful structure of her writing — and her elegant, intellectual detective Dalgliesh — she was at first seen as a natural successor to writers like Dorothy L. Sayers, creator of Lord Peter Wimsey, in the be-

tween-the-wars "Golden Age" of the mystery novel. But James' books were strong on character, avoided stereotype and touched on distinctly modern problems including drugs, child abuse, terrorism and nuclear contami-

nation. Novelist A.S. Byatt said the realism of James' writing was one of its strengths. "When people in her books died the other characters' lives changed as they would in real life," Byatt told the BBC. "Phyllis (James) was working with real people that she cared

about. "The world will be a worse place without her." Although there was nothing remotely genteel about P.D. James' writing, she was criticized by some younger writers of gritty urban crime novels. They accused her of snobbery because she liked to write about middle-class murderers, preferably intelligent and well-educated,

who agonize over right and wrong and spend time planning and justifying their crimes. Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard, hero of more than a dozen of James' 20 novels, is a decidedly gentlemanly detective, who writes poetry, loves jazz and drives a Jaguar.

James was unapologetic. She said her interest was in what made people tick. □

## Madonna in Malawi to launch children's hospital

**BLANTYRE, Malawi (AP)** —

Madonna is in the African country of Malawi for the first time since she had a falling out with the former president last year. Madonna on Thursday launched a 50-bed pediatrics ward at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in the commercial capital Blantyre. Sarah Ezzy, director of the charity Raising Malawi, said the new facility is the first dedicated pediatric intensive care unit in the country. Former Malawi Presi-

dent Joyce Banda had stripped Madonna of her VIP status last year by forcing the singer to check into her private jet as an ordinary passenger. New President Peter Mutharika has restored the singer's VIP status. The president's spokesman said the country appreciates Madonna's charity work.

Madonna helps fund a number of charities — including orphanages, schools and medical facilities — in Malawi. □



## Toward Better Teachers



**FRANK BRUNI**  
© 2014 New York Times

More than halfway through Joel Klein's forthcoming book on his time as the chancellor of New York City's public schools, he zeros in on what he calls "the biggest factor in the education equation."

It's not classroom size, school choice or the Common Core. It's "teacher quality," he writes, adding that "a great teacher can rescue a child from a life of struggle."

We keep coming back to this. As we wrestle with the urgent, dire need to improve education - for the sake of social mobility, for the sake of our economic standing in the world - the performance of teachers inevitably draws increased scrutiny. But it remains one of the trickiest subjects to broach, a minefield of hurt feelings and vested interests.

Klein knows the minefield better than most. As chancellor from the summer of 2002 through the end of 2010, he oversaw the largest public school system in the country and did so for longer than any other New York schools chief in half a century. That gives him a vantage point on public education that would be foolish to ignore, and in "Lessons of Hope: How to Fix Our Schools," which will be published next week, he reflects on what he learned and what he believes, including that poor parents, like rich ones, deserve options for their kids; that smaller schools work better than larger ones in poor communities; and that an impulse to make kids feel good sometimes gets in the way of giving them the knowledge and tools necessary for success.

I was most struck, though, by what he observes about teachers and teaching.

Because of union contracts and tenure protections in place when he began the job, it was "virtually impossible to remove a teacher charged with incompetence," he writes. Firing a teacher "took an average of almost 2 1/2 years and cost the city over \$300,000."

And the city, like the rest of the country, wasn't (and still isn't) managing to lure enough of the best and brightest college graduates into classrooms.

"In the 1990s, college graduates who became elementary-school teachers in America av-

eraged below 1,000 points, out of a total of 1,600, on the math and verbal Scholastic Aptitude Tests," he writes. In New York, he notes, "the citywide average for all teachers was about 970." In an interview with him after I finished the book, I asked for a short list of measures that might improve teacher quality.

He said that schools of education could stiffen their selection criteria in a way that raises the bar for who goes into teaching and elevates the public perception of teachers.

"You'd have to do it over the course of several years," he said.

But if implemented correctly, he said, it would draw more, not fewer, people into teaching.

He said the curriculum at education schools should be revisited as well. There's a growing chorus for this; it's addressed in the recent best-seller "Building a Better Teacher," by Elizabeth Green. But while Green homes in on the teaching of teaching, Klein stressed to me that teachers must acquire mastery of the actual subject matter they're dealing with. Too frequently they don't. Klein urged "a rational incentive system" that doesn't currently exist in most districts. He'd like to see teachers paid more for working in schools with "high-needs" students and for tackling subjects that require additional expertise. "If you have to pay science and physical education teachers the same, you're going to end up with more physical education teachers," he said. "The pay structure is irrational."

In an ideal revision of it, he added, there would be "some kind of pay for performance, rewarding success." Salaries wouldn't be based primarily on seniority.

Such challenges of the status quo aren't welcomed by many teachers and their unions. Just look at their fury about a Time magazine cover story last week that reported - accurately - on increasingly forceful challenges to traditional tenure protections. They hear most talk about tenure and teacher quality as an out-and-out attack, a failure to appreciate all the obstacles that they're up against. They hear phrases like "rescue a child from a life of struggle" and rightly wonder if that, ultimately, is their responsibility.

It isn't. But it does happen to be a transformative opportunity that they, like few other professionals, have. In light of that, we owe them, as a group, more support in terms of salary, more gratitude for their efforts and outright reverence when they succeed.

But they owe us a discussion about education that fully acknowledges the existence of too many underperformers in their ranks. Klein and others who bring that up aren't trying to insult or demonize them. They're trying to team up with them on a project that matters more than any other: a better future for kids. □



## Teenagers Stand Up to Backpage



**NICHOLAS KRISTOF**  
© 2014 New York Times

If prostitution of children is illegal, why is it that we allow an estimated 100,000 underage girls and boys to be sold for sex in America each year - many on a single U.S. website, Backpage.com?

That's a reflection of law enforcement priorities, but several brave girls who allege that they were pimped on Backpage are trying to change them. They are fighting back in lawsuits that could have far-reaching implications for sex trafficking in America.

Two young women who say they were each sold on Backpage at age 15, and raped hundreds of times as a result, are suing the company in Boston in federal court. Another suit is winding its way through Washington state courts, pursued by three girls who say they, too, were sold for sex on Backpage - in the case of two of them, when they were 13 years old.

The girls in the federal suit are represented pro bono by a major Boston law firm, Ropes & Gray, which has five lawyers on the case. The suit charges that Backpage has "perfected a business model that profits substantially from aiding and participating with pimps and traffickers in the sexual exploitation

of children."

"When on Backpage, I was advertised in the same way as a car or a phone, but with even less value than a bike," says one of the girls who is a plaintiff in the federal suit. "Men would view their options, and if I seemed like the best one, they would call."

Now 17, she says she was sold for sex on Backpage when she was 15 and 16; she estimates that she was raped 1,000 times as a result. She is seeking damages and whatever injunctions the court finds appropriate, but she is not explicitly seeking to close down the entire Backpage site.

Some readers may scoff that this is about censorship of free speech. No, it's about human rights - because one of the most searing rights abuses in America is the sexual exploitation of children.

Nor is the issue prostitution. Whatever one thinks of legalizing sexual transactions among adults, we should all be able to agree that children shouldn't be peddled like pizzas.

The federal suit lays out what it says is a pattern of Backpage blocking efforts by police or families to trace missing girls and boys. According to the suit, Backpage systematically scrubs photos in sex ads of metadata that would allow authorities to track down people in them.

Backpage also makes it hard to search for missing girls by allowing scrambled phone numbers in sex ads. If you sell a dog on Backpage in the pet section, you must post a numeric phone number; sell sex with a girl, and you can use a nonsearchable version - such as zero12-345-six-78nine - that makes it more difficult for police or family members to locate a missing child with a simple Internet search.

Likewise, Backpage allows ads to be paid for with untraceable credit cards or even with Bitcoin. It doesn't require any age verification or real names.

I first wrote about Backpage

a few years ago when it was used to advertise a 13-year-old girl being enslaved in Brooklyn, New York. One day the pimp dropped her off at an apartment building and waited at the entrance to make sure she did not run. She hurt too much to endure another rape, so instead of going to the apartment that had ordered her, she randomly pounded on another door and begged to use the telephone. She called her mother, and then dialed 911. The pimp is now in prison, but Backpage profited on the ad - as it always does.

Attorneys general from 48 states have written a joint letter to Backpage, pleading with it to stop exploiting children.

Liz McDougall, the lawyer for Backpage, declined to comment on the allegations in the lawsuits, but she told me: "We remain committed to effective measures of prevention and successful prosecution of this heinous crime."

That's absurd. Backpage claims to report possible sex-trafficking cases, but Yiota Souras, the general counsel of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, says that "Backpage's reporting is not conducted in good faith." Souras says that if parents report to Backpage that their teenage daughters are being sold on the site, the company doesn't always remove the ads or prevent new ads for the children from being posted.

The lawsuit says Backpage floods the authorities with reports of possible underage girls to pretend to be helpful, while actually impeding the effort. Meanwhile, Backpage refuses to use screening software that might actually detect ads for underage girls.

Americans rightly waxed indignant at the way the Roman Catholic Church or Penn State turned a blind eye to the sexual abuse of minors. But our entire society does the same thing. Isn't it time to stop? □





# Skirt Steak Works Great for Grilling

Grilled skirt steak with garlic and herbs. With a deep, beefy taste and succulent texture, skirt steak makes a great go-to for a quick dinner on the grill. (Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

**MELISSA CLARK**

© 2014 New York Times

Skirt steak isn't winning any beauty pageants. It's a long, lanky, awkward contender for your grill. You won't be able to give it those pronounced cross-hatched grill lines, and its flat shape gives you thin, squiggly slices rather than nice, wide planks. If you want pretty and iconic, splurge on a rib or strip steak.

But for a weeknight dinner when you want a deep, beefy taste and succulent texture, you can't get a better steak than skirt. It even trumps flank steak, my former go-to for throwing on the grill.

What flank and skirt steaks have in common are their brawny, mineral flavor and loose-knit flesh, which is ideal for absorbing marinade. While both are sliced from

the underbelly of the cow, skirt steak has the advantage of being richer and more marbled with fat; that means you use marinade for flavor only, rather than relying on it to tenderize the meat. (That's not the case with leaner flank steak.)

When I'm pressed for time, I'll often just unwrap my skirt steak, pat it down with salt and pepper and throw it onto the grill. It needs nothing more.

In this recipe, I rub down the meat with a classic basil-flecked herb paste, heavy on the garlic. If you have the time, you should marinate your meat the day before you plan to cook it. This gives it plenty of time to soak up the flavors. But you can also just slather on the herb paste as you're getting ready to cook.

A word about the grill: If you have one, use it. There's

simply no better way to get a deep char on the ample surface of a skirt steak. If you don't, you can cook the meat in batches in a menacingly hot cast-iron pan, as long as you open the windows and turn off the smoke alarm first. Or try it under the broiler, positioning the steak as close to the flames as possible without touching them.

Whatever your heat source, pull the steak off once the center hits rare to medium-rare. Don't veer into medium-well territory with this cut or you risk the steak turning chewy and tough. Finally, slice the meat across the grainy muscle fibers at a 45-degree angle, rather than straight up and down. Not only will this give you attractive slices, it will also maximize tenderness. If you want glamour, grill a big, pretty rib-eye. But in

the categories of succulence, taste and cost, skirt steak takes the crown, no contest.

## GRILLED GARLIC & HERB SKIRT STEAK

Time: 25 minutes, plus at least 30 minutes' marinating

Yield: 8 servings

1 cup basil leaves, more for garnish

3 scallions, white and green parts, thinly sliced, more for garnish

2 tablespoons lemon thyme leaves, more for garnish

2 fat garlic cloves, roughly chopped

2 tablespoons coarsely chopped pepperoncini (1 to 2 peppers), pickled jalapeño or other pickled peppers

2 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt  
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon

Juice of half a lemon  
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil  
2 1/2 pounds skirt steak

1. In a blender or food processor, combine basil, scallions, lemon thyme, garlic, pepperoncini, salt and lemon zest and juice. Pour olive oil over mixture; blend until it turns to paste.

2. Using paper towels, pat steak dry and place in a large bowl; slather paste mixture all over meat. Cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes or overnight.

3. Light the grill. Use a paper towel to pat steak dry. (You can leave some paste, but for the best sear, meat should be dry when it hits the grill.) Grill over direct heat until char lines appear and meat is done to taste, 3 to 5 minutes per side. Let rest for 5 minutes. Slice against the grain and garnish with herbs and scallions. □